1997

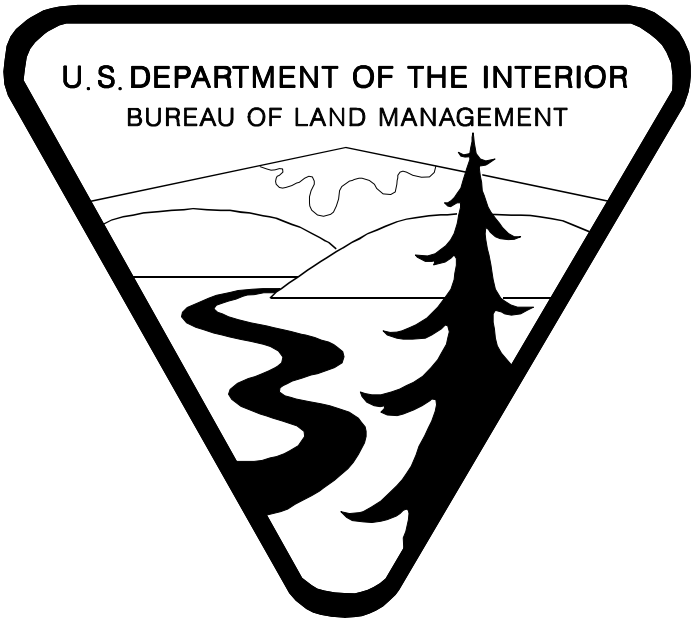
ANNUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY

for the

BLM COOS BAY DISTRICT

1300 Airport Lane
North Bend, Oregon 97459

(March 1998)



A Message from the District Manager

This is the second Annual Program Summary prepared by the Coos Bay District. In it we have reported the progress that the district has made in implementing the decisions and commitments in the Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan. For many of the programs, we have included cumulative accomplishments for Fiscal Years 1995 through 1997.

I am proud of the district accomplishments, and want to acknowledge the efforts by district personnel to implement the Resource Management Plan in a professional manner. They have shown that we can implement the Resource Management Plan in accordance with the Standards & Guidelines contained in the Northwest Forest Plan. They have applied the principle of adaptive management numerous times, and have identified other areas where we can apply that principle to improve management of our natural resources. Congratulations on a job well done!

Fiscal Year 1997 started with a real bang. The Winter Flood of 1997 hit the District hard with extensive damage to roads and other resources. Our road maintenance and engineering staffs worked long hours to assess the damage, fix the hazards, and collect detailed information and design criteria to apply for emergency road repair funds.

Even with the large storm-related workload, the District met its Annual Work Plan commitments for timber harvest volume by selling 28.5 million board feet in FY 97.

I'm also proud of the fact that we were able to continue our efforts towards watershed restoration under the Jobs-in-the-Woods program. Over $1.2 million of actual project work was awarded to local contractors and the "Pilot Crew" composed of displaced timber and fisheries workers through the Coquille Watershed Association.

A special thanks to all those who participate in locally controlled Watershed Associations and Councils, where we look forward to a joint effort to improve overall watershed condition. We are committed to actively assisting watershed councils and associations in restoration activities and to move forward with our role in implementing the State's Oregon Plan.

We hope that you find the information contained in this report to be informative, and welcome suggestions for improvement.

The Coos Bay District has continued to develop our Internet web site into a useful information tool providing a wide variety of timely information about recreation, timber sale activity, and environmental studies and planning. You can find us at *http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay*. We hope you will browse our web site, give us some feed-back on additional information needs that you may have, and participate in the NEPA process, either on-line or by regular mail services.

Neal Middlebrook
Acting District Manager

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Introduction

This Annual Program Summary (APS) is a requirement of the Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan. It is a progress report on the various programs and activities that have occurred on the district during Fiscal Year (FY) 1997, and provides an indication of some upcoming activities for FY 1998. It also summarizes the results of the district implementation monitoring accomplishments in accord with Appendix L of the Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan and the District Monitoring Plan.

In April 1994 the *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* was signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior. (In this document this plan will be referred to as the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP)). The *Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (RMP/ROD) was approved in May 1995, and adopted and incorporated the Standards and Guidelines from the NFP in the form of Management Actions/Direction.

Both the NFP and RMP/ROD embrace the concepts of ecosystem management at a much broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land Use Allocations were established in the NFP covering all federal lands within the range of the spotted owl. Analysis such as Watershed Analysis and Late-Successional Reserve Assessments are conducted at a broader scale and involve other land owners in addition to BLM. These analyses look at resource values from a landscape level, with an ecosystem perspective. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been, or will be, developed for implementation at the regional scale.

The district has been involved with the Provincial Advisory Councils involving federal agencies, local governmental bodies, Native American tribes, and interest groups, as well as Watershed Councils which have been formed to address concerns at the local watershed level. These councils have addressed issues spanning all resources and ownerships within a localized geographic area.

The Coos Bay District administers approximately 329,700 acres located in Coos, Curry and Douglas counties. Under the NFP and the RMP/ROD management of these lands have been included in three primary Land Use Allocations: the Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur; Late-Successional Reserves, where providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized; and Riparian Reserves, where maintenance of water quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized. The RMP established objectives for management of 17 resource programs occurring on the district. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in a detailed manner in this APS because of the overlap of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource programs is not included in the APS to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in the RMP/ROD and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both of which are available at the district office.

The manner of reporting the activities differs between the various programs. Some activities and programs lend themselves to statistical summaries while others are best summarized in short narratives. Further details concerning individual programs may be obtained by contacting the district office.

Budget

The district budget for FY 97 was approximately $17,149,000. This included $393,000 in the Management of Lands and Resources (MLR) accounts, $12,838,000 in the Oregon & California Railroad Lands (O&C) accounts, and $3,919,000 in "other" accounts, including approximately $3,100,000 for emergency road repair associated with the storm damage occurring in November and December of 1996.

During FY 97 the district employed 163 full-time employees, 10 lower than the authorized 173 full-time positions. We also employed as many as 47 temporary employees during the year.

Progress of Resource Management Plan Implementation

Watershed Analysis

Watershed Analysis is required by the NFP ROD. The primary purpose is to provide decision makers with information about the natural resources and human uses in an area. This information will be utilized in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for specific projects and to facilitate compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) by providing additional information for consultation with other agencies.

Watershed Analysis included:

- Analysis of at-risk fish species and stocks, their presence, habitat conditions and restoration needs;

- Descriptions of the landscape over time, including the impacts of humans, their role in shaping the landscape, and the effects of fire;

- The distribution and abundance of species and populations throughout the watershed;

- Characterization of the geologic and hydrologic conditions.

Interdisciplinary teams (IDT) prepare watershed analysis documents by consolidating and analyzing information from a variety of existing sources including Geographic Information System (GIS) data sets, agency records, old maps, scientific literature, old and recent surveys, and oral history. Where locally applicable information is lacking, the IDT may collect and analyze data such as water quality, culvert surveys, the upper extent of fish use in a watershed, and fire histories.

Approximately 70 percent of the BLM lands on Coos Bay District are covered by watershed analysis documents that are prepared using the Federal format. Eighteen watershed analysis have been completed as of the end of FY 97 (Table 1). Three are second or third iterations which address new issues not covered in the initial documents. The Siuslaw National Forest and the BLM Roseburg District have both completed analysis in watersheds they share with the Coos Bay District using our input. In FY 98, district teams will complete two more watershed analysis, and we will cooperate with the Forest Service on two additional documents. This will increase the portion of BLM land on the district visited under the watershed analysis process to approximately 90 percent by the end of FY 98. The remaining 10 percent are lands where the district has little work planned and/or are in areas where federal land represents less than 5 percent of the subwatershed. The district will visit those lands through watershed analysis on an "as needed basis". After FY 98 the watershed analysis program will shift emphases to examining emerging issues through second iteration documents. Teams coordinate with and include members from other federal and state agencies whenever possible.

As part of the analysis process, teams are beginning to include analysis of interim riparian reserve widths, and making recommendations to modify Riparian Reserves where appropriate to meet the guidelines of the NFP.

Watershed Restoration and Jobs-in-the-Woods

In FY 97 Watershed Analysis continued to assist in the identification of a number of watershed restoration projects including projects that were funded under the "Jobs-in-the-Woods" initiative which is a component of the NFP. Jobs-in-the-Woods funding is part of a regional collaborative effort to improve the health of the land and restore watersheds while at the same time providing economic assistance to local communities. Funding in FY 97 was primarily for watershed restoration with a small proportion identified Congressionally for recreation improvements at the Loon Lake Campground. A total of $1,202,000 of actual project work was awarded. Many of the projects were accomplished using a pilot crew composed of displaced timber and fisheries workers sponsored by the Coquille Watershed Association.

Projects completed in FY 97 included:

- Fish Passage structures - Replacing major culverts with fish passage structures;
- Riparian Silviculture - Planting or releasing trees within riparian areas;
- Grade Culvert Replacement - Replacing culverts that were worn out and/or leaking to prevent future mass wasting;
- Woodward Creek Road Upgrade - Restoration and erosion protection of the existing road;
- Noxious Weed Inventory - Inventory of noxious weeds along specified roads on the district.

The district staff designed and administered contracts for projects on BLM lands and assisted the Coquille, Coos, and Rogue Watershed Associations in the design of projects on private lands within the affected watersheds.

Table 1. Coos Bay District Watershed Analysis Summary						
Name	Iteration	BLM Acres [1]	Private Acres	Total Acres	Square Miles	Percent BLM Ownership
FY 94						
Lower Umpqua Frontal		13,825	26,112	39,937	62	35
Middle Fork Coquille		42,825	154,785	197,610	309	22
Total FY 94		56,650	180,897	237,547	371	24
FY 95						
Middle Creek		19,182	13,291	32,473	51	59
Sandy Creek [2]	2nd	5,943	6,785	12,728	20	47
Middle and Upper Smith [3]		2,826	7,272	10,098	16	28
Paradise Creek		6,649	5,996	12,645	20	53
North Coquille		6,445	21,387	27,832	43	23
Fairview		7,823	11,444	19,267	30	41
Total FY 95 (Includes 2nd iteration acres)		48,868	53,447	102,315	180	48
FY 96						
Middle Smith River		22,402	29,936	52,338	82	43
Mill Creek		24,515	61,503	86,081	134	28
Oxbow		23,458	19,057	42,515	66	55
Lower South Fork Coquille		7,368	58,301	65,669	103	11
West Fork Smith River		11,117	5,939	17,056	27	65
Tioga Creek		15,705	8,973	24,678	39	64
Sandy Remote [4]	2nd/3rd	10,374	13,620	23,994	37	43
Total FY 96 (includes 2nd/3rd iteration acres)		114,939	197,329	312,268	488	37

Table 1. Coos Bay District Watershed Analysis Summary (Continued)						
FY 97						
Big Creek [5]	2nd	10,083	6,586	16,669	26	60
North Smith [6] (2nd iteration acres)	2nd	33,519	35,875	69,394	108	48
North Smith [6] (1st iteration acres)		3,694	70,914	74,608	117	5
Upper Middle Umpqua		8,300	30,617	38,917	61	21
Middle Main Coquille/ North Fork Mouth/ Catching Creek		5,656	83,965	89,621	140	6
North Fork Chetco		9,262	16,300	25,562	40	36
Total FY 97 (includes 2nd iteration acres)		70,514	244,257	314,771	492	22
Total FY 94 - FY 97 (excludes 2nd/3rd iteration acres)		231,052	625,792	856,844	1,339	27
Planned for FY 98						
South Fork Coos River	1st	16,045	119,698	135,743	212	12
South Fork Coos River	2nd	15,705	8,973	24,678	39	64
East Fork Coquille		45,447	40,336	85,783	134	53
Total Planned for FY 98 (1st iteration only)		61,492	160,034	221,526	346	28
Total Planned for FY 98 (1st and 2nd iterations)		77,197	169,007	246,204	385	31

1 Some acre figures in this table are different from those reported in previous years. Large changes are the result of excluding those acres covered by district watershed documents that are outside the Coos Bay District boundary. Small changes are attributable to differences in sort criteria used to obtain these acres using GIS.

2 Sandy Creek Subwatershed is in the Middle Fork Coquille Watershed and is a more specific analysis at the subwatershed scale.

3 Roseburg District BLM prepared the Middle and Upper Smith River watershed analysis document. Only those acres on Coos Bay District are reported in this table.

4 The Sandy Remote Watershed Analysis covers the Sandy Creek and Remote Subwatersheds. They are both parts of the Middle Fork Coquille Watershed, which was analyzed at the watershed scale in a FY 1994 document. The Sandy Remote Watershed Analysis is a more specific analysis at the subwatershed scale.

5 Big Creek Subwatershed is in the Middle Fork Coquille Watershed and is a more specific analysis at the subwatershed scale.

6 The Siuslaw National Forest prepared the North Smith Watershed Analysis document. The document was prepared at the watershed scale and encompasses some areas previously covered by the Coos Bay District at the subwatershed scale. Only acres within the Coos Bay District boundaries are shown in the table.

Late-Successional Reserve Assessments

The NFP also requires the completion of Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) Assessments. All habitat manipulation activities in LSRs prior to FY 97 were covered by initial LSR assessments completed in accordance with the RMP and NFP.

During FY 97 the *Late Successional Reserve Assessment, Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* was completed by the Siuslaw National Forest and the Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, and Coos Bay BLM Districts. This assessment covered two LSRs (267 and 268) totaling 546,252 acres of federal land in the south half of the Oregon Coast Range Province. The assessment area ranges from the Umpqua River drainage in the south to the Yaquina River drainage in the north, and between the Pacific Ocean and the Willamette Valley. This Late-Successional Reserve Assessment was reviewed and found to be in compliance with the NFP by the Regional Ecosystem Office.

In FY 97 the Coos Bay, Roseburg, and Medford BLM Districts, and the Mapleton Ranger District of the Siuslaw National Forest jointly began to prepare the *Southern Oregon Coast and Northern Klamath Province LSR Assessment.* This Assessment includes 10 individual LSRs involving approximately 258,000 acres of federal lands located in southwestern Oregon between the California border and the Umpqua river and extends east to the Interstate 5 corridor. The assessment will be completed early in FY 98 and will essentially complete Assessments for all LSRs within the Coos Bay District and also in southwestern Oregon.

As specified in the ROD, LSR Assessments include eight components:

1. A history and inventory of overall vegetative conditions;
2. A list of identified late-successional associated species known to exist within the LSR;
3. A history and description of current land uses in the LSR;
4. A fire management plan;
5. Criteria for developing appropriate treatments;
6. Identification of specific areas that could be treated under these criteria;
7. A proposed implementation schedule tiered to higher order plans, and;
8. Proposed monitoring and evaluation components to help evaluate if future activities are carried out as intended and achieve intended results.

Program Accomplishments

In the remainder of the APS we have reported progress in implementing the RMP by program area, however, many of the program areas involve more than one resource.

Forest Management

The RMP recognized that implementation of the full Probable Sale Quantity (PSQ) would be gradual due to the complexities and expected difficulties getting sales prepared under the NFP

Standards and Guidelines and the RMP Management Actions and Direction. As shown in Table 2, the target volumes for FY 95 and 96 have been below the full PSQ of 32 million board feet (MMBF). In FY 97 it was agreed that the Coos Bay District would provide an additional 3.2 MMBF of replacement volume as required by the Rescissions Act of 1995 (PL 104-19) originally scheduled to be provided by the Medford District. As a result the target volume for the Coos Bay District would be reduced by 3.2 MMBF and the Medford District target volume would be increased by 3.2 MMBF. The target volume for FY 98 is the full PSQ of 32 MMBF.

FY 97 Accomplishments

The district advertised and sold 12 timber sales totaling approximately 27.2 MMBF and received $11,774,034 in value (Table 3). This included one sale that was advertised but not sold in FY 96. In addition approximately 1.3 MMBF of timber was sold as miscellaneous volume (small negotiated sales, contract modifications etc.). Seven of the sales involved final harvest, five involved commercial thinnings or density management, and two involved selectively removing hardwood trees encroaching on roads. Two sales included density management operations in the Riparian Reserves. The Progeny Test sites sale, which is associated with a long-term genetics program study, also included commercial thinnings within Late-Successional Reserves. (The difference between a commercial thinning and density management is the objective for the operation. Commercial thinning objectives include increasing the growth rates of remaining trees for future commodity production purposes. The objectives of a density management operation include changing the growth characteristics or forest stand condition for non-commodity purposes.)

In addition to the new timber sales mentioned above, the district awarded seven sales and portions of three other sales as required by the 1995 Rescissions Act (Table 4). These sales were first offered for sale between 1989 and 1991, however, they were not awarded due to subsequent litigation. Replacement volume was required for sales or units where either spotted owl nesting or marbled murrelet occupancy had been detected. Replacement volume for these sales has been prepared to conform to the Management Actions and Directions described in the RMP/ROD. The district is continuing to negotiate with the purchasers on "replacement volume" for three partial sale as required by the Rescissions Act. The volume associated with the Rescissions Act sales is shown in Table 4. A plan evaluation on the Rescissions Act sales is being prepared and will be issued separately from this APS.

In preparing the RMP, volume and acres to be harvested by LUA were estimated to determine the PSQ. Table 5 displays how the estimated acres of Matrix were allocated between the General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks (C/DB) and the anticipated volume to be harvested from each allocation. Tables 6 shows the acres and volume harvested from the Matrix in FY 97. Table 7 shows the cumulative and average harvest from the Matrix LUA for FY 95 to FY 97. Only coniferous volume harvested from the Matrix is included in the PSQ.

Table 2. Comparison of Target Volume and Volume Sold by FY		
FY	Target Volume [1]	Sold Volume [2]
95	24 MMBF	26.3 MMBF
96	27 MMBF	29.1 MMBF
97	28.8 MMBF [3]	28.5 MMBF [4]
98	32 MMBF	

1 Target Volume refers to the volume to be offered for sale as directed by the Annual Work Plan

2 Sold Volume refers to the total volume sold during the FY regardless of Land Use Allocation, does not include replacement volume under the Rescissions Act.

3 The target volume for Coos Bay was reduced by 3.2 MMBF. The Medford District is to offer an additional 3.2 MMBF. Coos Bay is to provide 3.2 MMBF of replacement volume under the Rescissions Act.

4 Includes 1.3 MMBF of miscellaneous volume.

Table 3. FY 97 Advertised Timber Sales					
Sale Name	Land Use Allocation [1]	Acres	Volume MMBF	Type of Harvest [2]	Comments
Hard Rock	Matrix	124	2.989	FH/CT	27 acres of FH, 90 acres of CT, and 7 acres of PC
Mose 15 Thinning	Matrix/RR	368	1.642	CT/DM	363 acres of CT, 5 acres of R/W
Progeny Test Sites	Matrix/ LSR	134	0.509	CT	Sale was offered but not sold in FY 96. 45 acres in Matrix, 89 acres in LSR
Upper Sandy	Matrix	42	2.120	FH	
Small Change	Matrix	1	0.073	FH	
Chicken Deluxe	Matrix	30	1.626	FH	
Blue Retro	Matrix/RR	45	0.637	CT	
Rock Again	Matrix	195	5.173	FH/CT	85 acres FH, 110 acres CT
Beyer's Horseshoe	Matrix	36	2.131	FH	
Sand Fly	Matrix	166	10.171	FH	
Moon Alder	Matrix/ LSR	20	0.083	SC	Removal of alder encroaching on road.
Middle Creek Alder	Matrix/ LSR	12	0.061	SC	Removal of alder encroaching on road.
Total		1,173	27.215		

1 RR is Riparian Reserve, LSR is Late-Successional Reserve

2 FH is Final Harvest, CT is Commercial Thinning, DM is Density Management, SC is selective Cut

Table 4. Rescissions Act Sales			
Original Sale Name	Volume Awarded from Original Sale MMBF	Replacement Volume Awarded by the Coos Bay District MMBF	Replacement Volume Sale Name
China Creek	0	1.301	Lost Kneppers
Bear Air	0	6.989	Beyer's Deadhorse (Replacement volume for Unit 2 provided by the Medford District)
Chaney Road	3.800	0	
Twin Horse	1.498	0	
Corner Sock	1.721	0	
Lost Sock	2.536		(Replacement volume for unit 4 provided by the Roseburg District)
Wren 'n Doubt	3.866		(Replacement volume for units 2, 3, and 7 provided by the Roseburg District) Negotiations ongoing for replacement volume for unit 5
Daffi Dora	4.654	0	
Deep Creek	0	3.209	Silver Creek
Ugly Eckley	5.815	0	
Lobster Hill	8.471	0	
Crazy 8's	3.814		Negotiations ongoing for replacement volume for portions of units 2 and 3
North Fork Chetco	3.878	2.669	Silver Creek, Elk 24 Negotiations ongoing for replacement volume for unit 3 and a portion of unit 4

Table 5. Estimated Annual Harvest from the Matrix (Acres and MMBF)				
	Final Harvest		Commercial Thinning	
LUA	Acres	Volume	Acres	Volume
GFMA	552	25.5	588	5.2
C/DB	27	0.9	27	0.4
Total [1]	579	26.4	615	5.6

[1] Acres and volumes shown in Table 5 differ slightly from those shown in Table 8 due to data rounding

Table 6. Actual Harvest from the Matrix in FY 97 (Acres and MMBF)				
LUA	Final Harvest		Commercial Thinning/Selective Cut	
	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]
GFMA	397	20.878	542	4.976
C/DB	0	0	45	0.163
Total	397	20.878	587	5.139

[1] Does not include miscellaneous volume harvested

Table 7. Cumulative and Average Harvest from the Matrix for FY 95 to FY 97 (Acres and MMBF)				
LUA	Final Harvest		Commercial Thinning/Selective Cut	
	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]
GFMA (Cumulative)	962	46.186	1922	22.632
C/DB (Cumulative)	0	0	45	0.163
Total (Cumulative)	962	46.186	1,967	22.795
GFMA (Average)	320.6	15.4	640.6	7.5
C/DB (Average)	0	0	15	.05
Total (Average)	320.6	15.4	655.5	7.598

[1] Does not include miscellaneous volume harvested

As shown in Table 7, the district has conducted more commercial thinning and less final harvest and operations in the Connectivity/Diversity Blocks than was estimated (Table 5). At this time, we are not concerned with the differences, as it was assumed that the type of harvest operations would vary, with more commercial thinning occurring early in the decade. The district will continue to monitor both the type of harvest and acres harvested over the next few years to determine if the modeling assumptions used in calculating the PSQ are being implemented. If

the rates of harvest are significantly different from the modeling assumptions, a mid course correction may be required.

Table 8 displays the anticipated acres and volume to be harvested from the Matrix LUA by age class, either by final harvest and/or commercial thinning, as well as the accomplishments for FY 95 to FY 97. Management of the C/DB area was based on an area control method, which did not break the harvested areas into age classes. Only conifer volume harvested from the Matrix counts toward the PSQ volume commitment. It was recognized that density management treatments within the Riparian Reserves (RR) or Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) would occur to provide habitat conditions for late-successional species, or to develop desired structural components meeting the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. It was estimated that approximately 5 MMBF could be harvested from these LUAs annually. Volume harvested from the RR or LSR LUAs does not contribute to the PSQ.

It should be noted that in each FY, road construction occurred in areas of 30 to 50 year age classes. Harvest associated with road construction is shown as a final harvest. Stand conversion also occurred in the 40-49 year age class and is included as a final harvest. Two small sales occurred in LSRs involving the salvage of trees blown down across roads. These sales are shown as selective cuts in the table. In FY 97 a commercial thinning of progeny test sites occurred in stands in the 20-29 age class. This activity is in a younger age class than we anticipated in preparing the decadal commitment.

Table 8. ROD Harvest Commitments and Annual Accomplishments (Acres and MMBF by Age Class)															
		ROD Decadal Commitment					Accomplishment FY 95 and FY 96 Combined					Accomplishment FY 97			
Age Class		Final Harvest		Thinning			Final Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut			Final Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut	
	LUA	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]	LUA	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]	LUA	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]
20-29	Matrix [2]	0	0	0	0	GFMA	0	0	0	0	GFMA	0	0	0	0
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	45	0.163
						RR [3]	0	0	0	0	RR [3]	0	0	0	0
						LSR [3]	0	0	0	0	LSR [3]	0	0	89	0.346
	Sub Total	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0		0	0	134	0.509
30-39	Matrix [2]	0	0	1600	15.2	GFMA	4	0.037	81	0.503	GFMA	5	0.129	293	1.213
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	0	0	0	0	RR [3]	0	0	74	0.300
						LSR [3]	8	0.074	81	0.507	LSR [3]	0	0	18	0.080
	Sub Total	0	0	1600	15.2		12	0.111	162	1.010		5	0.129	385	1.593
40-49	Matrix [2]	0	0	1900	17.6	GFMA	54	1.057	967	13.517	GFMA	0	0	53	0.703
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	14	0.158	313	4.731	RR [3]	0	0	17	0.137
						LSR [3]	0	0	159	1.755	LSR [3]	0	0	0	0
	Sub Total	0	0	1900	17.6		68	1.215	1439	20.003		0	0	70	0.840
50-59	Matrix [2]	100	1	1600	13.8	GFMA	0	0	254	2.833	GFMA	0	0	176	3.063
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	0	0	19	0.435	RR [3]	0	0	0	0
						LSR [3]	0	0	0	0	LSR [3]	0	0	0	0
	Sub Total	100	1	1600	13.8		0	0	273	3.268		0	0	176	3.063
60-79	Matrix [2]	500	12.5	1000	10.4	GFMA	0	0	0	0	GFMA	69	2.689	19	0.035
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	0	0	0	0	RR [3]	0	0	0	0
						LSR [3]	0	0	0	0	LSR [3]	0	0	0	0
	Sub Total	500	12.5	1000	10.4		0	0	0	0		69	2.689	19	0.035

Table 8. ROD Harvest Commitments and Annual Accomplishments (Continued)															
		ROD Decadal Commitment					Accomplishment FY 95 and FY 96 Combined					Accomplishment FY 97			
Age Class		Final Harvest		Thinning			Final Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut			Final Harvest		Thinning/Selective Cut	
	LUA	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]	LUA	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]	LUA	Acres	Volume [1]	Acres	Volume [1]
80-99	Matrix [2]	400	13.4	0	0	GFMA	149	6.935	69	0.803	GFMA	0	0	0	0
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	0	0	43	0.481	RR [3]	0	0	0	0
						LSR [3]	0	0	0	0	LSR [3]	0	0	0	0
	Sub Total	400	13.4	0	0		149	6.935	107	1.202		0	0	0	0
100-199	Matrix [2]	3700	178.6	0	0	GFMA	337	16244	0	0	GFMA	289	15.929	1	0.003
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	0	0	3	0.055	RR [3]	0	0	0	0
						LSR [3]	0	0	1	0.040	LSR [3]	0	0	0	0
	Sub Total	3700	178.6	0	0		337	16244	4	0.095		289	15.929	1	0.003
200 +	Matrix [2]	1100	58.5	0	0	GFMA	21	1.035	0	0	GFMA	34	2.131	0	0
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	0	0
						RR [3]	0	0	0	0	RR [3]	0	0	0	0
						LSR [3]	0	0	1	0.049	LSR [3]				
	Sub Total	1100	58.5	0	0		21	1.035	0	0.049		34	2.131	0	0
Total	Matrix [2]	5800	264	6100	57	GFMA	565	25.308	1380	17.656	GFMA	397	20.878	542	5.017
						C/DB	0	0	0	0	C/DB	0	0	45	0.163
						RR [3]	14	0.158	378	5.702	RR [3]	0	0	91	0.437
						LSR [3]	8	0074	242	2.351	LSR [3]	0	0	107	0.426
Total [4]		5800	264	6100	57		587	25.540	2000	25.709		397	20.878	785	6.043

1 Only coniferous volume from the Matrix contributes to the PSQ.

2 ROD commitment is for the Matrix only; Matrix includes both the General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks (C/DB)

3 No ROD commitment for the Riparian Reserves (RR) or Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) - Opportunity to treat areas where treatments meet the Objectives for these LUAs.

4 Does not include miscellaneous volume harvested.

Silvicultural Practices

Implementation of silvicultural practices anticipated in calculation of the PSQ levels will be increasing as timber harvest reaches RMP projected levels. Currently, they are lower than projected due to lag time in putting timber sales up under the RMP and completing harvesting on those sales. Projected levels may not be achieved until 1998 or later.

Table 9. Annual ROD Commitments and Accomplishments for Silvicultural Practices

Practice	ROD Acres	Accomplishments in FY 95 and 96	FY 97 Accomplishments	Accomplishments for FY 95 to 97
Site Preparation				
Prescribed Fire	760	208	415	623
Other	100	490	127	617
Total for Site Preparation	860	698	542	1,240
Planting				
Normal Stock	220	1,234	236	1,470
Genetic Stock	540	1,477	203	1,680
Total for planting	760	2,713	439	3,152
Stand Maintenance/Protection				
Vegetation Control	5,610	10,477	4,382	14,859
Animal Control	790	1,742	438	2,180
Precommercial Thinning/Release	3,480	3,901	2,373	6,274
Brushfield/Hardwood Conversion	120	69	33	102
Fertilization	1,200	3,154	6,211	9,365
Pruning	870	0	597	597

Site preparation and planting accomplishments are related to acres harvested, and should approach the projected levels as the previously sold sales involving final harvest are completed. Most site preparation and Brushfield/Hardwood Conversion accomplishments were associated with timber sales. All sales which have been completed have been planted. The remaining practices shown in Table 9 are related to biological needs or treatment windows associated with site specific conditions. In FY 97 the district awarded contracts totaling approximately $2,380,000 to treat the acres shown in Table 9. Acres treated will vary from year to year, but should eventually approximate the acres projected in the ROD.

Fire/Burning

All prescribed fire activities were conducted in accordance with the Oregon Smoke Management Plan and the Visibility Protection Plan. In FY 1997, prescribed fire management activities occurred in 15 units totaling approximately 542 acres. Fuel consumption varied due to factors such as time of year, aspect, fuel species, and ignition method. No intrusions occurred into designated areas as a result of prescribed burning activities on the district. Prescribed burning prescriptions target spring-like burning conditions when large fuel, duff and litter consumption, and smoldering is reduced by wetter conditions and rapid mop-up. Prescribed burning activities are implemented to improve seedling plantability and survival as well as activity fuel hazard reduction. Proposed management activities are analyzed during the interdisciplinary review process and alternative fuels management methods are utilized where appropriate.

No fires occurred on the district in FY 97 that escaped initial attack and required preparation of an Escaped Fire Situation Analysis. Five wildfires covering 8.7 acres were reported. The identified causes and acres burned were, powerline clearing (3 acres), prescribed burning (5.5 acres) and lightning (0.2 acres).

In FY 97, the district dispatched five people to fight six off district wild fires involving a total of 51 days. This was a major reduction from wild fire assignments in FY 96 when 71 people were off district for a total of 1,725 days.

Special Forest Products

In addition to the advertised timber sales described above, the district sold a variety of Special Forest Products as shown in Table 10. The ROD does not have any commitments for the sale of Special Forest Products. The sale of Special Forest Products follow the guidelines contained in the Oregon/Washington Special Forest Products Procedure Handbook.

Table 10. Special Forest Product Sales in FY 96 and 97		
	FY 96	FY 97
Product	Quantity Sold	Quantity Sold
Boughs - Coniferous	6,450 Pounds	8,725 Pounds
Christmas Trees	310 Trees	265 Trees
Edibles & Medicinals	50 Pounds	315 Pounds
Floral & Greenery	46,428 Pounds	54,723 Pounds
Mosses - bryophytes	2,000 Pounds	3,600 Pounds
Mushrooms - fungi	8,615 Pounds	29,453 Pounds
Seed & Seed Cones	0 Bushels	994 Bushels
Transplants and Ornamentals	0 Plants	2,080
Wood Products/Firewood/ Poles/Posts	615,727 Bd. Ft.	606,900 Bd. Ft.
Burles and Miscellaneous	0	1,000 Pounds
Number of Permits	901	1,496
Total Value	$91,205.83	$81,902.30

Fish Habitat

The district prepared biological assessments for formal consultation for proposed and on-going projects in the listed Umpqua River cutthroat trout evolutionarily significant unit (ESU), the listed northern California/southern Oregon coho (ESU), and in the Oregon Coast steelhead (ESU). All district proposed and on-going actions were determined to be in compliance with the RMP/RMP biological opinion and consultation was completed without disruption to scheduled project implementation.

The district continued to implement many significant watershed restoration projects. This included: replacement of grade culverts and installation of culverts designed for passage of aquatic organisms, road stabilization and road decommissioning and, riparian silviculture projects. Details of these projects are described in the “Jobs-in-Woods” program.

There was a continued effort to support watershed associations and councils. The district shared in public outreach by coordinating and staffing a joint watershed and BLM fair booth at the Coos County Fair. District personnel sponsored and participated in numerous tours and workshops with the watershed associations. Area Managers and technical staff participated in watershed association meetings to coordinate efforts occurring on BLM lands. Technical staff also provided assistance on numerous association sponsored restoration and enhancement projects.

Wildlife Habitat

An integral part of the Watershed Analysis and Late-Successional Reserve Assessment process mentioned earlier in this report assesses wildlife species habitat needs, and recommends habitat manipulation projects benefitting a variety of species. The final harvest timber sale units shown on Tables 3 and the Rescission Act Replacement Volume Sales shown on Table 4 retained at least 6 to 8 wildlife trees per acre, as well as down coarse woody debris to provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species. Additionally, several timber sales and Jobs-in-the Woods projects required that green trees be "topped" to create future snag habitat. The Jobs-in-the Woods program also decommissioned several roads in the Baker Creek, Mill Creek, and Lutzinger Creek areas benefitting wildlife species. The district will continue to implement similar projects in FY 98.

Management actions at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing area continued to enhance habitat for both elk and waterfowl species.

Other accomplishments included:

- Conducted down log and snag inventories on approximately 900 acres for use in land use planning (NEPA and Watershed Analysis documents).

- Monitored neo-tropical migrant bird species composition and relative abundance on approximately 250 acres to evaluate impacts of visitor use.

- Created 375 snags on 480 acres under the Jobs-in-the Woods Program. Additional snags and down logs were created in active timber sale units.

Threatened and Endangered Species and Section 7 Consultation

In FY 96, interagency teams developed and implemented a Section 7 consultation streamlining effort. This process was continued in FY 97. Level 1 teams, consisting of local employees from BLM, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), regularly met to assure consultation was accomplished efficiently and speedily. Programmatic consultation packages were developed to avoid redundant reviews of normal, repetitive situations. Analysis of habitat conditions for northern spotted owls, bald eagles, and marbled murrelets were conducted as part of formal consultation with the USFWS.

During FY 97 district wildlife biologists:

- Conducted marbled murrelet inventories to determine occupancy status for project clearances on approximately 6,275 acres.

- Conducted northern spotted owl inventories on approximately 40 acres to determine nesting status for project clearance.

- For the seventh year, the Coos Bay District has entered a Challenge Cost Share project to conserve the Western snowy plover. This project contributed to the continued maintenance and restoration of approximately 70 acres of snowy plover nesting habitat on the North Spit of Coos Bay. In Oregon, approximately 70-80 Percent of young produced this past year were raised on lands administered by the Coos Bay District.

- Cooperation with other agencies and private groups for snowy plover monitoring and research is ongoing through participation in the Western Snowy Plover Working Team for Oregon. We participated in two community forums for Western Snowy Plovers to help educate community members and business owners about management actions for plovers. We also provided marbled murrelet survey data to ODFW. We cooperated with other agencies for regular monitoring efforts for bald eagles and western snowy plovers.

During FY 97 district botanist:

- Conducted fourth year of flowering plant population monitoring for the Western Lily at New River, Shore Acres State Park, and Hauser site. Assisted in monitoring efforts at Cape Blanco/Blacklock Point, and Harris Beach State Park.

- Conducted fifth year population and habitat monitoring for populations of salt marsh bird's-beak on North Spit, mapped out population areas and set up monitoring, with others collecting the data. The district botanist also assisted in monitoring efforts at Cape Blanco/Blacklock Point, and Harris Beach State Park.

Survey and Manage Species

The district has not identified any Category 1 Survey and Manage (S&M) species. Resource area wildlife and fish biologists and botanists are surveying prior to activities and managing Category 2 S&M sites. Interim Guidance and survey protocol for five amphibian species was issued on March 18, 1996. Interim Guidance and survey protocol for the Red Tree Vole was issued on November 4, 1996. Interim Guidance and survey protocol for nine species of molluscs was issued in 1997. Surveys for the species noted above utilized the interim protocol.

In FY 97, Management Recommendations were developed for 29 groups of Survey and Manage Fungi and, 18 Bryophyte species. These recommendations will be utilized for all ground disturbing activities beginning in FY 99.

Surveys for Category 3 and 4 S&M species will be done at the regional level, not the local level. Protocols are being developed for many of the species.

District biologists accomplished the following in FY 97:

- Conducted inventories on approximately 9,000 acres of potential bat habitat to determine species presence and composition.

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- Conducted cursory red tree vole inventories on approximately 100 acres to determine occupancy status and guide land use planning decisions. Climbed 19 trees to document red tree vole occupancy.

- Conducted amphibian inventories on approximately 4 miles of streams and 255 acres of forest habitat to determine species presence and distribution and to guide land use planning decisions.

- Inventoried 5,875 acres for Del Norte salamander habitat and conducted Del Norte salamander protocol surveys on 460 acres.

District botanists accomplished the following in FY 97:

- Conducted field surveys on approximately 1,250 acres of proposed timber sale units to determine the presence of plants identified as Special Status Species in the Coos Bay District ROD.

Land Tenure Adjustments

In FY 97 the district completed an exchange with the Weyerhaeuser Co. for lands on the North Spit. The district acquired approximately 75 acres of land adjacent to the boat ramp and the North Spit ACEC. Weyerhaeuser Co. acquired the approximate 320 acre effluent pond also located on the North Spit.

In FY 97 the district continued to work on proposed exchanges with Coos and Curry Counties, and with a private individual in the New River area as part of the ACEC Management Plan, and also on a proposed exchange in the vicinity of Hunter Creek area as part of the Hunter Creek ACEC Management Plan. These efforts will continue in FY 98.

In FY 98 the district will work on three proposed land disposals of Zone III lands specifically identified in the RMP/ROD. Two of the parcels are approximately one acre in size, and are located near Fairview. Currently both are used as home sites under small tract leases, and would be sold to the current lessee by direct sale method. The third parcel is approximately two acres in size, located in the Whiskey Run area. This parcel is completely surrounded by one landowner, and BLM has no legal access. Disposal of this parcel would also be by direct sale method to the surrounding landowner.

The Coquille Restoration Act (PL 101-42) of 1989 established the Coquille Forest as part of the Coquille Tribe Self-sufficiency plan. In 1996, the Act was amended to identify approximately 5,400 acres within Coos County to be transferred from BLM to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to be held in trust for the Coquille Tribe as the “Coquille Forest”. The Coquille Tribe will assume management of these lands in September 1998.

Access and Right-of-Way

Due to the intermingled nature of the public and private lands within the district, each party must cross the lands of the other to access their lands and resources, such as timber. On the majority of the district this has been accomplished through Reciprocal Road Right-of-Way Agreements with adjacent land owners. The individual agreements and associated permits are subject to the regulations that were in effect when the agreements were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-ways have been granted for the construction of driveways, utility lines, water pipelines, legal ingress and egress, construction and use of communication sites, etc.

In FY 97, the following actions were accomplished:

- Two permits were issued for domestic ingress and egress.
- Five permits were issued for timber hauling over existing roads.
- Two permits were issued for construction of new roads crossing BLM administered lands associated with timber harvesting operations on private lands.
- Two grants were issued to bury fiber optic cables within BLM road rights-of-ways.
- One grant was issued to install additional equipment in an existing communication site.

In FY 98 we anticipate requests for similar types of actions. In addition, the Bonneville Power Administration is planning on preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for construction of a 500-kV reinforcement power line from Eugene to the North Bend area. The EIS will also include the anticipation of siting the Nucor facility on the North Spit of Coos Bay. The district will be a cooperator in preparation of the EIS.

Special Areas

There are 12 Special areas on the Coos Bay district, 3 existing prior to the preparation of the RMP in 1995, with 9 new ACECs designated in the RMP. Management plans have been prepared for the North Spit ACEC, New River ACEC, and The North Fork Hunter Creek and Hunter Creek Bog ACECs. Management plans have not been completed for the remaining special areas.

FY 97 accomplishments:

- The North Fork Hunter Creek and Hunter Creek Bog ACECs management plan was completed.
- The New River ACEC administrative building opened this summer. The district offered eight guided nature hikes and installed interpretative panels in the building.

- The district completed an exchange with the Weyerhaeuser Co. for lands on the North Spit. The district acquired approximately 75 acres of land adjacent to the boat ramp and the North Spit ACEC.

In FY 98 the district proposes to:

- Continue to work on proposed exchanges with Coos and Curry Counties, and with a private individual in the New River area as part of the ACEC Management Plan, and also on a proposed exchange in the vicinity of Hunter Creek area as part of the Hunter Creek ACEC Management Plan.

- At the New River ACEC we will continue to develop an interpretive plan that will include trail opportunities and educational programs to enhance wildlife viewing and recreation opportunities for local schools, visitors and residents.

Recreation

In FY 97 the district maintained and operated 10 of the 11 existing recreation areas and sites. The severe storms of November and December, 1996 resulted in extensive damage at the Edson Creek, North Spit Boat Ramp, East Shore, and Loon Lake sites. (The East Shore site was closed for the entire year.)

FY 97 accomplishments:

- Emergency road repairs at Edson Creek were completed. We also replaced tables and fire rings.

- At Loon Lake we have repaired roads, the drainage system, the host site, and replaced tables and fire rings.

- The district is working with the State Marine Board for a long term solution to the sand and debris problems at the North Spit Boat Ramp.

- We are completing an Environmental Assessment of the proposal to rebuild the East Shore campground.

- A Draft Amendment to the 1993 Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area Management Plan was prepared in FY 97. This amendment addresses the future of two houses located on the property, environmental education opportunities, other appropriate uses, and safety along highway 126. The Bureau will work with local representatives in Reedsport to find appropriate uses for the properties.

- An Operations plan for Loon Lake was approved in September 1997.

In FY 98 the district proposes to:

- Prepare a Recreation Management Plan for the combined Sixes River and Edson Creek sites.

- Prepare Site Plans for five Extensive Recreation Management Areas. All sites have been prioritized for backlog maintenance needs.

Partners/Education

In FY 97, the district managed site tours at the Cape Blanco Lighthouse, coordinated volunteers, and worked with the U. S. Coast Guard, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians of Oregon, Coquille Indian Tribe, and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office to ensure a safe and legal visit for over 14,000 people.

The district also maintained an active leadership role with Oregon Coast Environmental Awareness network (OCEAN), teaching the teachers, the Blossom Gulch Environmental Education Project, and various community planning efforts such as the future of Coos Head Air National Guard Station.

The district is also exploring trail possibilities in a planning effort resulting from our participation with the Coos County Tourism Committee.

The district also participated in the Coos and Curry County Fairs, Reedsport's Tsalila Festival, and Winchester Bay Festival.

Many of these activities would not have occurred without volunteers. The district Volunteer Program contributed over 17,000 hours, saving the Bureau over $255,000.00.

Transportation/Roads

The Western Oregon Transportation Management Plan was completed in FY 96. One of the objectives of the plan is to comply with ACS objectives. The district is developing Transportation Management Objectives as part of the Watershed Analysis process.

Watershed Analysis and road inventories identified a number of roads that posed a risk to aquatic or other resource values. Improvements were made, primarily in the form of replacement of deteriorating grade culverts, or replacement of large culverts obstructing or restricting passage of fish, or not capable of handling 100-year flood events. Many of the projects were completed as part of the Jobs-in-the-Woods program. In addition to the projects listed in Appendix A in response to question 67, the following road projects were awarded in FY 97:

- Grade culvert replacements on the following road systems:
  - Slide Creek
  - Frenchie Creek
  - Weatherly Creek/Big Creek

- Fish passage culverts were installed or repaired in the following areas:
  - Big Creek
  - Bear Creek
  - Butler Creek
  - Beaver Creek
  - Moore Creek

All culvert replacements were designed to meet the 100-year flood event.

In addition to the projects listed above the district road maintenance crew accomplished the following:

- Graded 254 miles of road
- Cleaned 115 miles of ditch line and 1,714 culverts
- Cut brush along 400 miles of road
- Maintained 11 bridges
- Hauled, placed, and processed 5,900 cubic yards of surface rock
- Hauled and applied 8,400 tons of hot mix surfacing
- Removed 88,200 cubic yards of slides/slough material (mostly from the storms in November/December 1997).

The district road maintenance crew also completed work for the Siuslaw National Forest under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Cultural

During FY 97 the district continued to work at Cape Blanco, including hosting a third full season of public lighthouse tours. Over 50,000 visitors from all parts of the world have visited the Cape Blanco Lighthouse since our public tours began. We continued to implement the historic architectural field school recommendations for continued preservation, maintenance and repair of the lighthouse structure. The structure exterior was painted and the ventilation system restored to function (including recasting of the brass vents). The district also contracted with the University of Oregon school of Architecture and Allied arts to produce conceptual plans for an expanded "Greeting Center" at Cape Blanco.

The district assisted the U.S. Coast Guard in preliminary and final fieldwork to remove the existent underground storage tanks from the Cape Blanco headland. This removal project, and the associated archeological excavation, were conducted with the cooperation and assistance of our management partners, including the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, the Coquille Indian Tribe and Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. This project not only removed the underground storage tanks but also provided the first controlled archeological excavation and analysis from this potentially important prehistoric locality.

The district completed and signed a MOU with the Coquille Indian Tribe concerning management of public lands in their area of interest. We also continued to assist the Coquille Indian Tribe in preparing for transfer of 5,400 acres to form the Coquille Forest (to be final at the

end of FY98).

The district assisted the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians with planning for their Bal'diyaka (a cultural heritage museum) project.

We participated with community members in evaluation of the "Coos Bay Wagon Road" route for special recognition. This was the earliest forest route linking the South Coast to the interior valleys. In conjunction with the Roseburg District, we contracted with noted historic researcher, Stephen Dow Beckham, Ph.D., to investigate its history and current interpretive potential.

In addition to these activities, the cultural program has been involved in ground-disturbing project clearances and production of human resource sections for ongoing Watershed Analysis conducted by the district.

Socioeconomic Conditions

The district provides employment opportunities for local companies, contractors, and individuals in the implementation of the RMP and NFP. Timber sales, silvicultural treatment projects such as thinning, and planting trees, repair of storm damaged roads, the collection of ferns, mushrooms, and firewood, and the recreational use of public lands all provide work opportunities.

As has been mentioned previously, the Coos Bay District, in coordination with other federal, state and local governments, participates in the NFP Jobs-in-the-Woods/Watershed Restoration program. The program provides on-the-job training opportunities for workers displaced from forestry related work. The workers are hired to work on crews restoring fish and forestry habitat. In addition to hiring crews, part of the money is used to hire local area contractors to do restoration work. Table 11 displays the projects on the district in FY 96 and 97.

Table 11. Jobs-in-the Woods Projects on the Coos Bay District

	FY 96	FY 97
Number of Projects	29	20 [1]
Project Dollars Awarded	$1,271,052	$1,202,000

[1] Of the 20 projects reported 9 were awarded as contracts and 11 were awarded as Task Orders through the Coquille Watershed Association.

Several strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local government, to support local economies and enhance local communities. Below is a summary of several of these projects.

- Watershed Associations: More than 10 local watershed associations on the South coast are operating on willing private landowners properties. These associations were formed to

restore the health of coastal watersheds and provide jobs to local citizens and displaced timber workers. BLM provides technical assistance to these associations, as well as funding through Jobs-In-The-Woods or in coordination with other government programs or private foundations.

- Oregon Coastal Environment Awareness Network (OCEAN): BLM continues to be involved with OCEAN. This past year BLM augmented a $48,000 Governor's Watershed Health Program Grant awarded to OCEAN to enhance public education about watersheds and their importance. BLM is presently involved with the Coastal Environments Learning Center Master Planning and the Coastal Environments Learning Programs summer pilot program study.

- Coos County Tourism Development: BLM played a significant role in coordinating the Tourism Strategic and Implementation Plan for Coos County and is currently involved in implementing several strategies that were recommended through the planning process.

- Curry County Sustainable Nature-Based Tourism Project: BLM is currently working with Curry County on implementing significant portions of its Sustainable Nature-Based Tourism Development Project.

The district has also assisted in planning and developing amenities (such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities) that enhance local communities. These include:

- New River ACEC: Construction of the administration and maintenance buildings have been completed. This year the staff will continue to develop an interpretive plan that will include trail opportunities and educational programs to enhance wildlife viewing and recreation opportunities for local schools, visitors and residents.

During FY 97, collections from timber sales in Oregon included $54,587,630 from O&C lands, $3,863,939 from CBWR lands, and $6,972,958 from public domain lands. As always, those receipts are shared with county governments. The resource management related payments to counties (O&C Land Grant Funds predominantly from timber sales) and the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) within the boundary of the Coos Bay District for FY 97 are shown in Table 12.

Table 12. FY 97 Payments to Counties within the Coos Bay District

County	O&C Land Grant Funds	PILT
Coos	$4,145,667	6,537
Curry	$2,564,692	56,801
Douglas	$17,601,518	91,143
Total	$24,311,877	154,481

In FY 97 the Coos Bay District collected the following amounts for goods and services provided:

$14,899,100 from timber sales and modifications
$ 296,900 from negotiated sales and special forest product sales
$ 598,100 from road use and road maintenance fees
$ 72,000 from recreation use fees
$ 553,900 from miscellaneous fees and services
$16,420,000 Total collections

These funds have been deposited with the Treasury Department for their redistribution.

Energy and Minerals

Two permits were issued for the removal of approximately 53,000 cubic yards of material from existing rock quarries located at Moon Creek and Baker Creek.

Noxious Weeds

Through the Jobs-in-the-Woods program, a district noxious weed inventory was conducted with a pilot crew from Coquille Watershed Association. A total of 2,131 miles (13,000 acres) of district roads were inventoried for Scotch Broom, French Broom, and Gorse. This information will be useful in future management and control of these species.

The district also continued to release biocontrols for gorse, and are assisting the Oregon Department of Agriculture in research for future biocontrols for the broom species.

Miscellaneous Programs

Cadastral Survey

The district Cadastral Survey crew completed 8 projects consisting of approximately 41 miles of surveys and the establishment of 50 survey monuments. Although the surveys were conducted to support BLM projects, adjacent land owners also benefitted. The crew also conducted 1.25 miles of administrative line surveys for the timber sale program, 3 camp ground surveys for the recreation program, 30 ERFO site surveys for the district engineers to repair damage resulting from the winter of 96/97 storms, and assisted in the investigation of a possible timber trespass.

The Cadastral Surveyors provided instructions for district employees and local surveyors and Southwestern Oregon Community College students in the use of the global positioning system equipment as well as providing training on a variety of safety related items.

They also assisted private and county surveyors with survey records, information on surveying procedures, and in answering technical questions.

Hazardous Materials

The district coordinator participated in a number of actions involving investigation and/or cleanup of reported hazardous waste sites including:

- three emergency responses reported on the district;
- completion of the cleanup and final site restoration work on an oil spill site in Coos Bay;
- clearing of all underground fuel storage tanks and any contamination at the Cape Blanco Coast Guard facility;
- in conjunction with the Oregon State Office Law Enforcement staff and the U.S. Attorneys Office, a paint waste case resulted in the conviction and cost recovery for damages.

The FY 1996 CASHE (Compliance Assessment, Safety, Health and the Environment) recommendations were largely accomplished in FY 1997. We had a two-year window to do this in, but due to a wide-spread acceptance of the findings on district, we were able to accelerate it to a point of about 90 percent achieved the first year.

Law Enforcement

The Coos Bay District has a full time BLM Ranger who along with the services of Coos County, and Curry County Deputy Sheriff (through law enforcement agreements) provide for law enforcement duties. During the summer of 1997, a second BLM Ranger was stationed at the Loon Lake Recreation area to assist in maintaining a quality recreational experience.

Law enforcement efforts for FY 97 included:

- Conducting investigating on a total of 29 cases including:
  - two Hazmat incidents,
  - several cases involving vandalism,
  - several cases involving illegal dumping, including vehicle abandonment,
  - theft of government property.
- The investigations resulted in issuing 14 citations, 1 arrest, and 2 cases were referred to other agencies for additional processing.
- The district Ranger was also involved in one search and rescue operation, and two details to assist other districts.

Port-Orford Cedar

Port Orford Cedar (POC) continues to be threatened by the root disease caused by *Phytophthora lateralis* throughout its range in southwestern Oregon and northwestern California. In FY 97, an extensive roadside survey was completed to detect the extent of healthy and dead POC within the Coos Bay District. A contract to map all dead POC trees using aerial photography was awarded. The district cooperated with USFS and Oregon State University in selecting and screening for genetic resistance to the disease. Where appropriate, the district continues to seasonally wash vehicles, sanitize roadside POC, close selected roads, and exclude the cutting of POC boughs in order to limit the spread of the disease.

National Environmental Policy Act Analysis and Documentation

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is the broadest environmental law in our nation. NEPA applies to all federal agencies and most of the activities they manage, regulate, or fund that may affect the quality of the human environment. Whenever a management action is proposed on BLM administered lands in the Coos Bay District, we are required to conduct an interdisciplinary review of the environmental effects of the proposal. We are required to provide the public with an opportunity to be involved in the planning and decision making process. The review of the environmental effects of a proposed action can occur in four ways: categorical exclusions, administrative determinations, environmental assessments, or environmental impact statements.

Categorical Exclusions

It has been determined that some types of proposed activities do not individually or cumulatively have significant environmental effects and may be exempt from requirements to prepare an environmental analysis. These actions are called categorical exclusions (CX) and are covered specifically by Department of Interior and BLM Guidelines.

Administrative Determinations

An administrative determination is a determination by BLM that NEPA documentation previously prepared by the BLM fully covers a proposed action and no additional analysis is needed.

The process will commence with documentation that the new project's effected environment is comparable to the environmental components previously analyzed (no new information is relevant, no threatened or endangered species, historical or cultural artifacts, hazardous materials, or noxious weed concerns exist on the new site). The administrative determination will formally document the "sameness" of the new proposed action and the appropriateness of the previous analysis.

Environmental Assessments

Environmental Assessments (EA) are prepared to assess the effects of actions that are not exempt from NEPA, are not categorically excluded, and are not covered by an existing environmental document. An EA is prepared to determine if a proposed action or alternative will significantly affect the quality of the human environment (significance is defined in 40 CFR 1508.27). If the impacts are determined to be insignificant, a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) is prepared which briefly states the reasons the proposed action and/or alternatives will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Once the FONSI has been prepared, the resource manager considers the environmental, social, and economic impacts that would result if the proposed action or an alternative were implemented, and makes a decision as to whether to allow the action to take place or not. If the impacts are determined to be significant, the project could be dropped, or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) could be prepared.

Environmental Impact Statements

Major proposals that will significantly affect the environment require that an EIS be prepared. An EIS will include the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, identification of adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the proposed action or an alternative is implemented, description of the relationship between short-term uses and long-term productivity of the environment, and identification of any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources.

How You Can Be Involved

Resource management in the BLM and other government agencies is process oriented. To influence a final decision on a project or activity, you must be a part of the process, and the sooner the better. You can provide your views and concerns as the proposed action and alternatives are being developed. You can also comment on the FONSI for EAs or the Record of Decision for an EIS during the formal comment periods. This information and the time frame for individual projects are published in the Coos Bay District's *Planning Update* and is also included on the Internet at *http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay*.

We have begun to distribute and collect environmental information about projects being considered. The Scoping Notices that we usually send out to a mailing list of interested citizens and adjacent landowners are on-line for all to see and respond to. You can send comments to us by e-mail at our new address: *coosbay@or.blm.gov*. If you are interested in participating in the NEPA process, we can keep you informed by displaying the EA (with its maps and appendices) and the FONSI for your comment. Then, after considering your comments, we will display our final decision on the project.

FY 97 Accomplishments

The following NEPA analysis documents were completed in FY 97:

- 26 EAs including 11 timber related requests from outside sources (private industry), one O&C R/W permit request, two timber sales, several road repair projects, one R/W agreement area, several land exchanges, multi-year noxious weed treatment and fertilization EAs, three Jobs-In-The-Woods projects;

- 7 additional EAs were started but not completed by the end of the FY, including several timber sales, a recreation site storm damage repair project, a land exchange, and a habitat enhancement project. It is anticipated that these EAs will be completed in FY 98.

- 6 Administrative Determinations were completed. Subjects included Forest Fertilization, Road Decommissioning, Pruning, and Mineral Sales.

- 33 CXs were completed, while 5 CXs were started, but not completed by the end of the FY.

Research and Education

In June, 1996, the BLM published "*A Strategy for Meeting Our Research and Scientific Information Needs*", a watershed- based strategy. It lays out a strategy for identifying BLM's priority research needs, addressing all areas of science throughout the agency. It also tells how to acquire research results through partnerships with federal science agencies, the academic and non-government sectors and other sources. Guidelines for transferring research results into use are also provided.

At the state level, BLM has organized a research and monitoring committee which periodically evaluates research recommendations, and which proposes areas needing research to cooperating agencies. Virtually all western Oregon research subjects proposed for future research in FY 96, dealt with NFP topics such as Riparian, Aquatic Conservation Strategy, and habitat issues.

Current research projects on district lands are related to the NFP, although none are specifically addressing key watersheds. The FY 96 North Fork Soup Creek Density Management Timber Sale is part of a formal density management study being conducted by Oregon State University. The FY 97 Blue Retro Timber Sale is part of a formal commercial thinning study being conducted by Oregon State University.

Public outreach continued at recreation sites and through exhibits at county fairs, and festivals, reaching thousands of individuals.

Monitoring

Coos Bay District Implementation Monitoring

Implementation monitoring conducted on the district was based on a process developed by the district core team based on the questions contained in Appendix L of the RMP/ROD with questions from the interagency monitoring effort incorporated or used to clarify issues of concern. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary, such as accomplishment reports. (A copy of the lists are included in Appendix A.) The monitoring team consisted of district core team members and was supplemented with area personnel on several projects. The district core team selected projects for monitoring and prepared individual reports based results of the evaluation. Detailed information on the monitoring process is available for review in the Coos Bay District Office.

The following process was used for selecting individual projects to meet the ROD implementation monitoring standards:

- Core team developed a list of projects occurring in FY 97 based on the following stratification:
  - **S** All advertised regular timber sales.

- Negotiated timber sales over 20 MMBF in size.
- All silvicultural projects, with each bid item considered to be a project.
- All jobs-in-the woods projects.
- Miscellaneous projects involving ground disturbing activities for which a CX was prepared and major ERFO road repair projects.

- The core team stratified each of the listed projects by land use allocation and other screening factors included in the district monitoring plan.

- The core team selected every fifth project from the list by resource area (Monitoring Plan in ROD required 20 percent of projects within each area be monitored). Two timber sales involving final harvest were added to meet the 20 percent requirement. Table 13 displays the distribution of projects available for selection and those selected for monitoring by Resource Area.

- The core team compared the NEPA documents and Watershed Analysis files for each of the selected projects to answer the first part of the implementation monitoring question: "were the projects prepared in accord with the underlying ROD requirements, NEPA and/or Watershed Analysis documentation? Did the contracts include what the other documents said should be included?" For each project we answered the 66 project specific questions included in Appendix A.

- Based on this initial review, we have concluded that the first portion of implementation monitoring (did we do what we said we'd do) has been satisfactorily accomplished for the projects listed below, with the exceptions as noted. Watershed Analysis and NEPA documentation is adequate, and the requirements in these documents have been included in the authorization documents.

- Full compliance
  - Progeny Test Site Timber Sale
  - Chicken Deluxe Timber Sale
  - Upper Sandy Timber Sale
  - Rock Again Timber Sale
  - GP West Road Right-of-Way and Negotiated Timber Sale
  - Camp Salvage Negotiated Timber Sale
  - Myrtlewood Planting Contract Item 4
  - Umpqua Precommercial Thinning Contract Item 4
  - Baker Creek Jobs-in-the Woods Project
  - Big Creek #5 Jobs-in-the-Woods Project
  - Butler Creek Jobs-in-the-Woods Project
  - Wells Creek Road ERFO Repair DRMS and Contract
  - Baker Creek DRMS ERFO Project

- Substantial compliance
  - <u>Myrtlewood Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1</u>
    Two areas of non-compliance were noted, however, one is considered to be lack of documentation of intent

within the Riparian Reserves, the other is a technical non-compliance with the standards and guidelines within the LSR portion of the project.

Although streams were shown on the contract maps, the documentation did not indicate if thinning within the Riparian Reserves and the upland areas would be different in any manner. From a practical stand point, we do not believe that at this stage of stand development one would notice any substantial change in prescriptions when implemented on the ground, in fact treatment within the Riparian Reserves would probably result in a long-term benefit as survival and growth of conifers should improve.

Within the LSR portion of the project area the exemption criteria developed by REO indicate that treatment should result in a variable spacing, and that all species of trees should be represented in the treated stand. In the contract, however, there are no indications that this was considered. The specifications for all land use allocations indicate a uniform treatment requirement, and that trees selected for release were to be based on a species priority (with the exception of Port-Orford cedar). As with the non-compliance for the Riparian Reserves as noted above, this is considered to be a technical non-compliance with the S&Gs for the LSR. Treatment as implemented within the LSR would probably result in a long-term benefit as survival and growth of conifers should improve.

- Myrtlewood Precommercial Thinning Contract Item 1

  Two areas of non-compliance were noted however, one considered to be lack of documentation of intent within the Riparian Reserves, the other non-compliance with the standards and guidelines within the LSR portion of the project.

  Although streams were shown on the contract maps, the documentation did not indicate if thinning within the Riparian Reserves and the upland areas would be different in any manner. From a practical stand point, we do not believe that at this stage of stand development one would notice any substantial change in prescriptions when implemented on the ground.

  Within the LSR portion of the project area the exemption criteria developed by REO indicate that there should be a variable spacing involved, and that all species of trees should be represented in the treated stand. In the contract, however, there are no indications that this was considered. The specifications for all allocations indicate a uniform spacing of 13 X 13 is the goal, and that trees selected for removal were to be based on a species priority (with the exception of Port-Orford cedar).

S The core team, supplemented with area personnel on several projects, reviewed completed projects in the field to answer the second part of the implementation monitoring question: "did we do on the ground what we said we would in the contract?" Based on the field reviews, we have concluded that the vast majority of the second portion of implementation monitoring requirements been satisfactorily accomplished, with the exceptions as noted below.

S Full compliance
- **S** Myrtlewood Planting Contract Item 1
- **S** Umpqua Precommercial Thinning Contract Item 4
- **S** Big Creek #5 Jobs-in-the-Woods Project
- **S** Butler Creek Jobs-in-the-Woods Project
- **S** Baker Creek DRMS ERFO Project
- **S** Weekly/Johns Creek - DRMS ERFO Project

S Substantial compliance

- Myrtlewood Manual Maintenance Bid Item 1

  We noted an area of non-compliance with the contractual requirement for Port-Orford cedar root rot control. The contract required cutting POC within 50 feet of roads, 25 feet of contract boundaries, and 50 feet of POC infection centers. In most units visited, it was apparent that no extra effort had been made to treat POC. Although "flagging" of POC was not evident, indicating that the root rot was not extensive, treatments did not meet the contractual requirements. For most units, it is anticipated that a follow up precommercial thinning treatment will be required, and that the POC could be treated at that time.

- Camp Salvage Negotiated Timber Sale

  The only question of non-compliance relates to the removal of several of the salvaged logs which appeared to have been out of the road prism. Since the project area was within a riparian reserve and within an LSR, these logs probably should have been left

- Wells Creek Road Repair-ERFO Contract, Bid Item 4

  One area of non-compliance was observed: Soil stabilization involved the use of "nonnative" grasses, a technical violation of the S&Gs. However, to not stabilize the exposed areas would result in potentially greater risk of continual erosion. It is our opinion that the right call was made.

- The core team also revisited projects in the field that had not been completed last year to answer the second part of the implementation monitoring question. Based on the field reviews conducted, we have concluded that the vast majority of the second portion of implementation monitoring requirements have been satisfactorily accomplished, with the exceptions as noted below.

- Full compliance
  - Rock Creek Thinning Timber Sale
  - Elk 24 Timber Sale
  - Final Surprise Timber Sale

- Substantial compliance
  - Sugar Indians Timber Sale

    One area of concern exists on the sale. The contract did not require retention of 120 feet of class 1 and 2 logs per acre on completion of operations. The contract retained extra wildlife trees with the intent of these extra trees providing the material over time. Distribution and location of the wildlife trees were clumped or in stringers to provide for safe logging operations. As such, when these trees are felled to provide future coarse woody debris, the distribution will also be clumpy. While this may technically result in meeting the CWD requirements for the unit as a whole as described in the forest plan, in our opinion, it does not meet the intent of the plan, where distribution is also of concern. This concern is greatest in units 3, 4, and a portion of unit 1. In future sales we would suggest inclusion of the stipulation that 120 feet per acre of material be retained on completion of site preparation.

- In FY 98 we plan on revisiting the following projects where field operations were not completed, and also monitor additional projects awarded in FY 98.

Documentation for each of the 16 projects monitored in FY 97 and those for which a follow up visits were completed are available at the district office.

Table 13. FY 97 Projects Available and Selected for Monitoring by Selection Factors			
Type of Project	Number in Selection Pool	Number Selected in Myrtlewood R.A.	Number Selected in Umpqua R.A.
Advertised Timber Sales	14	2	2
Regeneration Harvest [1]	11	3	1
Thinning/Density Management [1]	7	1	1
Salvage Sales	4	0	1
Silvicultural Projects	22	3	1
Jobs-in-the-Woods	14	1	2
Other	17	2	1
Within or adjacent to Riparian Reserves [2]	34	6	3
Within Key Watersheds [2]	11	5	0
Within Late-Successional Reserves [2]	20	3	1
Adjacent to ACEC [2]	0	0	0
Within VRM Class II or III areas	0	0	0
Within Rural Interface Area	0	0	0
Involve Burning [1]	9	2	3
Total Projects Available/Selected [3]	73	7	9

[1] Included in the Timber Sales listed above. Three negotiated Right-of-Way sales are included with the Regeneration Harvest sales. Two timber sale included both Regeneration Harvest and Thinning/Density Management.

[2] Projects selected were included in Timber sales, Silvicultural projects, or Jobs-in-the-Woods projects listed above.

[3] The number of projects available for selection and selected are not additive, as many occurred within Timber sales, Silvicultural projects, or Jobs-in-the-Woods projects.

Province level implementation monitoring

A combined team of federal agency representatives and community members, representing the Southwest Oregon province was selected to complete the second year of Province level implementation monitoring. For FY 97, three sets of questions were designed to monitor timber sales (129 questions), road construction (87 questions), and restoration projects (89 questions). For the province six timber sales, four road projects, and two restoration projects were randomly selected to be monitored. The Fire Road Thinning timber sale and road project were selected to be monitored on the Coos Bay District. The team found the following deficiencies:

- During the Timber portion of the review, the Team reached consensus on a Fail finding for Questions 4, 5, 41, and 55. Failure on Question 41 was based on a determination of not identifying the Riparian Reserve

boundary on paper or in the field for one section of one stream in one unit.

- Failure on Question 55 referred to retention of down woody material. In reviewing both units of this sale, as well units that had been previously harvested with the same prescription and logger, the Team felt that this S&G was not met. Although it was young second growth, we did see evidence that recent down wood was marked for removal and there was no plan proposed to increase or maintain the existing component of material on site. Because this sale has not been harvested to date, the opportunity to modify to meet this S&G exists.
- **S** Failure on Questions 4 and 5 were answered with a fail based on our interpretation that if we failed one S&G the other would also receive a failure.
- **S** Failure on Question 25 of the Roads project is based on the use of non-native seed for erosion control as a mitigating measure. This in essence introduces nonnative plants into the LSR.

Overall, the Province Team felt that the district was reasonably successful in implementing these projects in conformity with the Northwest Forest Plan. The entire report is available for review at the district office.

At the Province level, results were encouraging and reflected good field efforts at implementing the NFP, with an approximate 90 percent compliance with the Standards and Guidelines. Specific results should be available in a report similar to the, "*Results of the FY 1996 Implementation Monitoring Program*". It is anticipated that the FY 97 report should be available by early summer from REO or it can be reviewed at any local BLM /USFS office.

Effectiveness monitoring

Effectiveness monitoring is a longer range program than implementation monitoring, and time must pass to measure many of the factors of concern. Currently the district is working with the state Research and Monitoring Committee and the REO in the development of the components for effectiveness monitoring. The four identified priorities are:

Late-Successional and Old-growth habitat
Northern Spotted Owl
Marbled Murrelet
Riparian and Aquatic Resources

The final strategy for each of these areas are anticipated to be finalized this year.

Resource Management Plan Maintenance

The *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan* and *Record of Decision* (RMP/ROD) was approved in May 1995. Since then, the district has begun implementing the plan across the entire spectrum of resources and land use allocations. As the plan is implemented, it sometimes becomes necessary to make minor changes, refinements, or clarifications of the plan. These actions are called plan maintenance. They do not result in expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or changes in terms, conditions and decisions of the approved RMP/ROD. Plan maintenance does not require environmental analysis, formal public involvement or interagency coordination.

The following minor changes, refinements, or clarifications have been implemented as a part of plan maintenance for the Coos Bay District. To the extent necessary, the following items have been coordinated with the Regional Ecosystem Office (REO). These are condensed descriptions of the plan maintenance items. Detailed descriptions are available at the Coos Bay District Office by contacting Bob Gunther.

Survey Prior to Ground-Disturbing Activities

Instruction Memorandum OR 97-007 provided clarification on Management Actions/Direction implementation for Survey and Manage Component 2 species as shown on page 10 and 33 of the Coos Bay ROD. The Instruction Memorandum provides clarification for the terms "ground disturbing activities, when a project is implemented, and implemented in 1997 or later".

Coarse Woody Debris Management

Information Bulletin OR 97-064 provided clarification on Implementation of Coarse Woody Debris Management Actions/Direction as shown on page 22, 28, and 53 of the Coos Bay ROD. The Information Bulletin provided options and clarification for the following CWD features:

- Retention of existing CWD;
- Crediting linear feet of logs;
- Crediting of large diameter short pieces using a cubic foot equivalency alternative;
- Standing tree CWD retention versus felling to provide CWD substrate, and;
- Application of the basic guideline in areas of partial harvest.

Red Tree Vole

Instruction Memorandum OR 97-009 provided Interim Guidance and Survey Protocol for the Red Tree Vole a Survey and Manage Component 2 species, in November 1996.

Understory and forest gap herbivores

Information Bulletin OR 97-045 corrected a typographical error occurring on Table C-3 in the NFP and Appendix Table C-1 of the Coos Bay ROD. Under the heading of Arthropods, Understory and forest gap herbivores is changed to Understory and forest gap herbivores (South Range).

Management Recommendations were provided in January 1997 for 18 Bryophyte species .

Management Recommendations were provided in September 1997 for 29 groups of Survey and Manage Fungi species.

Correction of minor typographical error

Page 65 of the RMP/ROD incorrectly used the acronym PRMP rather than RMP.

Third Year Evaluation

The district RMP/ROD requires a formal evaluation be completed at the end of every third year after implementation begins. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine whether there is a significant cause for an amendment or revision of the plan. The focus of the evaluation will be on whether the RMP goals and objectives are being met, whether the goals and objectives were realistic and achievable, and whether changed circumstances or new information have altered expected impacts as described in the RMP/FEIS.

Simultaneously with other western Oregon BLM districts, Coos Bay has initiated the collection of supplemental information and analyses required for evaluation the RMP. The evaluation will be based on the implementation actions and plan and project monitoring from the June 1995 through September 30, 1998. BLM staff have already taken actions to determine if there has been any significant change in the related plans of other federal agencies, state or local governments, or Indian tribes or whether there is other new data of significance to the plan. Meetings have been held in which key staff and managers from western Oregon districts consolidated and refined a list of internal issues as well as developing a strategy and process for accomplishing the third year evaluation. The public has been invited to participate in briefings or discussions concerning the third year evaluation as well as to provide pertinent comments to the district on expected evaluation issues, analytical tools, new information, or changed circumstances that could be important in the evaluation.

Supplemental analyses on regional, provincial, watershed or other level will be made available for public review as they are completed. All of the supplemental analyses and RMP evaluations are expected to be completed by the summer of 1999, when they will be made available for public review prior to approval by BLM's Oregon/Washington State Director. The State Director's findings will indicate whether or not the western Oregon RMPs are individually or collectively still valid for continued management direction or require plan amendments or revisions, together with appropriate environmental analyses and public participation.

Acronyms/Abbreviations

ACEC	-	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACS	-	Aquatic Conservation Strategy
APS	-	Annual Program Summary
BLM	-	Bureau of Land Management
CBWR	-	Coos Bay Wagon Road
C/DB	-	Connectivity/Diversity Blocks
CERTs	-	Community Economic Revitalization Teams
CT	-	Commercial Thinning
CX	-	Categorical Exclusions
CWA	-	Clean Water Act
CWD	-	Coarse woody debris
CX	-	Categorical Exclusions
DM	-	Density Management
EA	-	Environmental Analysis
EIS	-	Environmental Impact Statement
ERFO	-	Emergency Relief Federally Owned
ESA	-	Endangered Species Act
ESU	-	Evolutionarily Significant Unit
FEIS	-	Final Environmental Impact Starement
FH	-	Final Harvest
FONSI	-	Finding of No Significant Impacts
FY	-	Fiscal Year
GFMA	-	General Forest Management Area
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
IDT	-	Interdisciplinary Teams
LSR	-	Late-Successional Reserve
LUA	-	Land Use Allocation
MMBF	-	Million board feet
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
NEPA	-	National Environmental Policy Act
NFP	-	Northwest Forest Plan
NMFS	-	National Marine Fisheries Service
OCEAN	-	Oregon Coastal Environment Awareness Network
O&C	-	Oregon and California Revested Lands
ODFW	-	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
PACs	-	Province Advisory Councils
PL	-	Public Law
POC	-	Port-Orford Cedar
PSQ	-	Probable Sale Quantity
REO	-	Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC	-	Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP	-	Resource Management Plan
RMP/ROD	-	The *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan* and *Record of Decision*

ROD	-	Record of Decision
RR	-	Riparian Reserve
R/W	-	Right-of-Way
SEIS	-	Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
S&M	-	Survey and Manage
TMO	-	Timber Management Objective(s)
USFS	-	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	-	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Appendix A
Implementation Monitoring for FY 97

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Coos Bay District Implementation Monitoring results for FY 97. The first list, *1997 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions*, have been used for each of the 16 projects monitored. The summary for the 16 projects monitored in FY 97 has been included in the previous section on Coos Bay implementation monitoring. The completed forms for individual projects are available for review at the district office.

The second list, *APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions*, include answers to each of the questions.

In addition to the monitoring reported in this APS, other projects and/or programs are conducting monitoring activities as a part of project implementation.

Coos Bay District

1997 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Abbreviation legend:

NFP = Northwest Forest Plan	RMP = Resource Management Plan
RR = Riparian Reserve	LSR = Late Successional Reserve
KW = Key Watershed	AL = All land use allocations
MTX = matrix (including connectivity)	WSR = Wild & Scenic River

NOTE: Each question begins with a parenthesis which identifies the areas where the question applies and ends with NFP page references, RMP page references.

Questions 67-108 are not project related, but appropriate for the Annual Program Summary. They are described in the Question.aps document.

Questions relating directly to S&Gs in either the NFP or RMP are rated against a set of answers as follows:

Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑

Most question have five potential responses as to how well the project meets the standards and guidelines (note: some questions can only be answered meets or fails to meet).

- Exceeds the biological requirements of the S&G (e.g., the S&Gs call for retaining trees felled for safety reasons to be kept on site when needed for coarse woody debris and more than enough coarse woody debris is retained, the project "exceeded" the S&G);
- Meets the S&G (if, in the above example, the needed amount was retained);
- **S** Fails to meet the S&G (if, in the above example, felled trees were removed, even though coarse woody debris was needed);
- Not capable of meeting the S&G (e.g., if 120 feet of 16 inch logs are needed for coarse woody debris, but the site did not have enough 16 inch logs to meet the S&G. Thus, the S&G was not met, but there was no way to meet it); and
- Not applicable (e.g., if a question pertains to management of a Survey and Manage species and there are no occurrences of the species in the project area).

Questions better answered by Yes / No, or relating to Documentation and Issues not directly related to specific S&Gs, but important to monitor are rated against the following:

Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑

This Set of questions applies to the following project:

_____

Q#	Question	Rating	Narrative Response
1.	(RR, KW) Was a watershed analysis completed before initiating actions in a Riparian Reserve or Key Watershed? (NFP B20) (RMP 7, 13)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
2.	(AL) Were the concerns identified in the watershed analysis addressed in the project EA? (NFP B20) (RMP 7, 13)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
3.	(AL) Were all streams & water bodies identified? (NFP C30-31) (RMP 12)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
4.	(AL) Were stream boundaries established correctly? (NFP C30-31) (RMP 12)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
5	(AL) Has the project reduced or maintained the net amount of roads in Key Watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 7, 70)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
6.	(RR) Were proposed activities within the RR clearly defined and stipulated in the project documentation?	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	

7.	(RR) Did documentation clearly show how the proposed activities meets or does not prevent attainment of the ACS objectives? (NFP B-10, C-31-38) (RMP 6, 13-17)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
8.	(AL) Was project implementation consistent with the EA and decision?	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
9.	*Summary Question for 3 thru 8* (AL) Were the Riparian Reserves in the project area designed and implemented in accordance with the NFP S&Gs? (NFP C30) (RMP 13)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
10.	(RR) Were activities designed to minimize new road and landing construction, or where necessary, were they designed to minimize impacts to Riparian Reserves? (NFP C32) (RMP 13)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
11.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths? (NFP C32) (RMP 13-14, 69)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

12.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 69)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
13.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to protect fish and wildlife populations? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 69)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
14.	(RR) Are new structures and improvements (culverts, roads, bridges etc) in Riparian Reserves constructed to accommodate the 100-year flood? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 69)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
15.	(RR) Is the project consistent with a road management or transportation management plan (includes; operations and maintenance, traffic regulations during wet periods, road management objectives, and inspection/maintenance for storm events)? (NFP C32) (RMP 14, 70)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	

16.	(RR) Are new recreation facilities within the Riparian Reserves designed so as not to prevent meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFP C34) (RMP 14, 46)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
17.	(AL) Were activities designed to Protect all suitable MM habitat within .5 mile of activity center? (RMP 36)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
18.	(AL) Were activities designed to Protect or enhance unsuitable MM habitat within .5 mile of activity center? (RMP 36)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
19.	(LSR) Was REO review completed where required (i.e. salvage, silviculture...) and recommendations implemented? (RMP 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
20.	(LSR) Were activities designed to avoid timber harvest in stands over 80? (NFP C12) (RMP 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
21.	(LSR) Were activities designed to limit Salvage to areas greater than 10 acres and less than 40 percent canopy closure? (NFP C14) (RMP 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

22.	(LSR) Were Salvage activities designed to retain Standing live trees and snags? (NFP C14) (RMP 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
23.	(LSR) Were activities designed to avoid or minimize new road construction, or where necessary, were roads designed to minimize impacts to late-successional stands? (NFP C16) (RMP 20)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
24.	(LSR) Have habitat improvement projects been designed to improve conditions for fish, wildlife, or watersheds and to provide benefits to late-successional habitat? (NFP C17) (RMP 20)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
25.	(LSR) Has the project avoided the introduction of nonnative plants and animals into Late-Successional Reserves (if an introduction is undertaken, has an assessment shown that the action will not retard or prevent the attainment of LSR objectives)? (NFP C19) (RMP 21)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
26.	(MTX) Were "unmapped" LSRs in the vicinity of the project identified in the EA? (NFP C3, C39)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	

27.	(MTX)Were activities designed to protect or enhance the "unmapped" LSR? (NFP C3,C39) (RMP 34, 36)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
28.	(MTX) Was suitable habitat around all occupied marbled murrelet sites protected during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 36)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
29.	(MTX) Was recruitment habitat around all occupied marbled murrelet sites protected or enhanced during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 36)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
30.	(MTX) Was suitable habitat within 100 acre core areas around all known (Before Jan 1, 1994) spotted owl activity centers protected during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 23)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
31.	(MTX) Was non-suitable habitat within 100 acre core areas around all known (Before Jan 1, 1994) spotted owl activity centers protected or enhanced during project planning? (NFP C3, C10) (RMP 23)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

32.	(MTX) Do management activities within the range of Port-Orford cedar conform to the guidelines contained in the BLM Port-Orford cedar Management Guidelines? (RMP 23)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
33.	(MTX) Were Protection Buffers provided? (NFP C3, C10, C19, C23) (RMP 11)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
34.	(MTX) Are suitable (40% of potential) snags being left in timber harvest units? (NFP C41) (RMP 22, 27)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
35.	(MTX) Is Coarse Woody Debris (CWD) already on the ground retained and protected during and after regeneration harvest? (NFP C40) (RMP 22)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
36.	(MTX) Are 120 linear feet of decay class 1 and 2 logs per acre, at least 16"in diameter and 16' in length retained and protected during and after regeneration harvest ? (NFP C40) (RMP 22, 53)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
37.	(MTX) Are 6-8 (12-18 in connectivity) green conifer trees per acre retained in regeneration harvest units? (NFP C41-42) (RMP 23, 28, 54)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

38.	(MTX) Was harvest consistent with retention of the 15% late successional stands analysis identified in the 5th field watershed? (NFP C44) (RMP 23, 28, 53)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
39.	(AL) If dust abatement measures were required during construction and log/rock hauling, was it implemented ? (RMP 24)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
40.	(AL) Concerning water and soil "Best Management Practices", were all potentially impacted beneficial uses identified in the EA? (NFP B32) (RMP 25, App D BMPs)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
41.	(AL) Were the appropriate BMPs designed to avoid or mitigate potential impacts to beneficial uses? (NFP B32) (RMP 25, App D)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
42.	(AL) Were the designed BMPs implemented? (NFP B32) (RMP 25, App D)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
43.	(LSR, RR) Are suitable snags being left in timber harvest units? What standard was used for each project and why? (NFP C40-41, C14-15) (RMP 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

44.	(LSR, RR) Is Coarse Woody Debris (CWD) already on the ground retained and protected during density management harvest? What standard was used for each project and why? (NFP C40-41, C14-15) (RMP 13, 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
45.	(LSR, RR) Is sufficient Coarse Woody Debris retained following harvest activities? (NFP C40-41, C14-15) (RMP13, 19)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
46.	(AL) Are special habitats (i.e. talus, cliffs, caves) being identified and protected? (RMP 28)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
47.	(RR) Were potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks identified in the EA? (RMP 30)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
48.	(AL) Were design features and mitigating measures for fish species identified in EA and contract? (RMP 30)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
49.	(AL) Were design features and mitigating measures for fish species implemented? (RMP 30)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	

50.	(AL) For Appendix C-1 "Survey and Manage (S&M) Species" and "protection buffer species", have required surveys been conducted? (NFP C5, C19, C47) (RMP 32)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
51.	(AL) If any species were found, what species were they and what management actions were implemented? (NFP C5)	Narrative Response required	
52.	(AL) Are special status species being considered in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
53.	(AL) During forest management and other actions that may impact special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances? (RMP 32)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
54.	(AL) Was analysis conducted and appropriate consultation with USFWS and NMFS completed on special status species to ensure consistency under existing laws? (NFP 53-54, A2-3, C1) (RMP 32)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	

55.	(SA) Are BLM actions and BLM-authorized actions/uses adjacent to or within special areas consistent with resource management plan objectives and management direction for special areas? If NOT, what is being done to correct the situation? (RMP L 15)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
56.	(SA) Are actions needed to maintain or restore the important values of the special areas being implemented? (RMP 38)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
57.	(AL) Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions? (RMP 40)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
58.	(AL) During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately manage and protect disturbances? (RMP 40)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
59.	(AL) In VRM Class II and III areas, were visual resource design features and mitigating measures identified in the EA and contract (RMP 41)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	

60.	(WSR) For projects or research within designated segments (eligible or suitable) of a Wild and Scenic River, were potential impacts to outstandingly remarkable values identified? (RMP 42)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
61.	(AL) For actions within the identified Rural Interface Areas, Are design features and mitigation measures developed and implemented to minimize the possibility of conflicts between private and federal land management? (RMP 44)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
62.	(AL) Was creation of a "fire hazard" considered during project planning? (RMP 76)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
63.	Did the IDT plan for fire hazard reduction? (RMP 76)	Yes ❑ No ❑ N/A ❑	
64.	(AL) Are all mining related structures , support facilities and roads located outside the Riparian Reserves? (NFP C34) (RMP 15, 57	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	
65.	(RR) Are mining related activities within the RR meeting the objectives of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy? (NFP C34) (RMP 15)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

66.	(AL) Are all solid and sanitary waste facilities related to mining excluded from Riparian Reserves or located, monitored and reclaimed in accordance with SEIS record of decision Standards and Guidelines and resource management plan management direction? (NFP C34) (RMP 15, 57)	Exceeds S&G ❑ Meets S&G ❑ Doesn't Meet S&G ❑ Not Capable of Meeting S&G ❑ N/A ❑	

Coos Bay District
APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Abbreviation legend:

NFP = Northwest Forest Plan	RMP=Resource Management Plan
RR = Riparian Reserve	LSR= Late Successional Reserve
KW = Key Watershed	AL = All land use allocations
MTX = matrix (including connectivity)	SA = Special Area (ACEC, RNA, EEA)
WSR = Wild & Scenic River	
REQ = Requirement reference from RMP appendix L	

NOTE: Each question begins with a parenthesis which identifies the areas where the question applies and ends with NFP page references, RMP page references and RMP requirement number that applies to question.

Questions 1-66 were project related questions and are found in the question document.

67. (RR) What types of projects are being implemented within riparian reserves to achieve the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFP C32) (RMP 7, 13)

The following projects were implemented in FY 97:

- **S** Repair work was completed on 35 ERFO sites damaged from the storms during the winter of 1996/1997, many of which occurred within Riparian Reserves.
- **S** Upgrading of road standards on an existing dirt road, approximately two (2) miles in length, within the Riparian Reserves on a tributary to the North Fork of the Coquille river. These upgrades were designed to reduce and control sediment delivery and included replacement of malfunctioning culverts, installation of addition culverts, application of crushed rock surfacing and seeding of bare soils.
- **S** Several roads within Riparian Reserves were included in decommission projects that took place in the Umpqua Area.
- **S** Additional roads within Riparian Reserves have been identified, through the Transportation Management Objectives process, for similar treatments or decommissioning and will be completed as funding becomes available.
- **S** Conducted manual maintenance on 35 acres of past riparian restoration projects.
- **S** Conducted riparian restoration (planting) on 25 acres in two watersheds.
- **S** Conducted extensive pre-project monitoring and design/lay-out of FY-98 riparian restoration projects (40 acres).
- **S** Five sites for culvert replacements to provide for passage for all aquatic organisms were identified.

68. (RR) Do watershed analyses identify mitigation measures where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? Have they been implemented? (NFP C34) (RMP 14)

Five watershed analyses cover hydrologic units containing existing recreation sites have been

completed. Four did not address existing recreation facilities in the context of the ACS. One watershed analysis (Smith River prepared jointly by USFS with BLM input during FY 97) contains recommendations for managing existing recreation facilities within the contexts of meeting ACS objectives.

The Smith River Watershed Analysis was released in July 1997. The District has not initiated new projects based on recommendations in that document.

69. (LSR) Have Late-Successional Reserves assessments been prepared prior to habitat manipulation activities? (NFP A7, C11, C26) (RMP 18)

Projects occurring prior to FY 97 had interim LSR Assessments prepared. In FY 97 LSR assessments have been prepared for all LSRs occurring within the Coos Bay District.

70. (LSR) What is the status of development and implementation of plans to eliminate or control nonnative species which adversely impact late-successional objectives? (NFP C19) (RMP 21)

Control of nonnative species occurring within LSRs is included in both the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessments. Specific plans have not been developed or implemented at this time. The noxious weed inventory conducted under the Jobs-in-the-Woods program will assist in developing these plans.

71. (AL, LSR) What land acquisitions occurred, or are underway, to improve the area, distribution, and quality of Late-Successional Reserves? (NFP C17) (RMP 20)

No land acquisitions specifically for improvement of LSRs occurred, or are underway at this time.

72. (AL) Are late-successional retention stands being identified in fifth-field watersheds in which federal forest lands have 15 percent or less late-successional forest? (RMP 23)

Watershed analysis documents address the 15 percent late-successional retention issue. Analysis completed on the district indicate all fifth-field watersheds exceed the 15 percent thresh hold, therefore, identification of retention stands has not been necessary.

73. (AL) What is the age and type of the harvested stands? (RMP 53, 54)

This information has been displayed in Table 8 in this APS.

74. (AL) Were efforts made to minimize the amount of particulate emissions from prescribed burns? (RMP 24)

All prescribed fire activities were conducted in accordance with the Oregon Smoke Management Plan and the Visibility Protection Plan. In FY 1997, prescribed fire management activities

occurred in 15 units and totaled approximately 550 acres. Proposed management activities are analyzed during the IDT review process and alternative fuels management methods are utilized where appropriate. Fuel consumption varied due to factors such as time of year, aspect, fuel species, ignition method. No intrusions occurred into designated areas as a result of prescribed burning activities on the district. Prescribed burning prescriptions target spring-like burning conditions when large fuel, duff and litter consumption, and smoldering is reduced by wetter conditions and rapid mop-up. Prescribed burning activities are implemented to improve seedling plantability and survival as well as activity fuel hazard reduction.

75. (AL) What in-stream flow needs have been identified for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat and riparian resources (Watershed Analysis)? (RMP 25)

In-stream flow needs are being identified for New River in anticipation of applying for water rights.

76. (AL, KW) How many and what type of watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented in Key Watersheds? In other watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 8)

Key Watersheds:

- **S** The Myrtlewood Area conducted intensive post-project monitoring and evaluation of the FY 96 instream enhancement project on Rowland Creek. Riparian silvicultural plantings within the Riparian Reserves occurred in the Baker, Rowland, and Salmon Creek areas, all within a Tier 1 Key watershed. Implementation of a fish-passage culvert project in Baker Creek was postponed until FY-98, because the associated EA was protested.

- **S** In the Umpqua Area, a restoration plan identifying potential sites for riparian and instream restoration was begun within the Tioga Creek key watershed. The plan, however, will not be completed until FY 98. Three culverts were identified and designed for replacement. A transportation management plan was completed.

In other watersheds:

- **S** In the Umpqua Area a restoration plan (including riparian/instream/road closure/culvert work) for the West Fork Smith River was prepared and will be implemented over the next several years. Two additional watershed restoration plans were initiated.

- **S** In the Myrtlewood Area, intensive post-project monitoring and evaluation of FY 94-96 instream enhancement projects on Elk Creek and Sandy Creek were conducted. Also accomplished were intensive pre-project monitoring and design/layout of FY 98 projects on 4 streams (Big Creek and Slide Creek drainages). A stream-crossing culvert (Endicott Creek) with an open-bottom arch, designed to provide passage for all aquatic organisms, including mollusks, fishes, and invertebrates was replaced. Also replaced were 65 grade culverts in two watersheds (Frenchie Creek and Slide Creek) to improve road drainage and reduce sediment inputs.

A total of nine (9) restoration projects involving the transportation network were implemented on district in FY 97.

Resource Area	Project Type	Number of projects	In Key Watershed ? (Y/N)
Umpqua	Road Decommissioning	4	N
Umpqua	Upgrade Standard	1	N
Myrtlewood	Upgrade Standard	3	N
Myrtlewood	Upgrade Standard	1	Y

Five additional road decommissioning projects in non key watersheds were conducted in the Umpqua Area under timber sale activities.

77. (RR, AL) What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFP C35) (RMP15)

Fuel treatment strategies are developed as a part of the IDT process. Existing and potential locations for incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, etc., located within and outside riparian reserves, have been reviewed in watershed analysis documents. No new sites have been proposed to support wildfire suppression activities. No chemical retardant, foam or other additives were used on or near surface waters. In accordance with BLM Manual 9214, Coos Bay District RMP, and the ODF/BLM Protection Agreement, immediate and appropriate suppression action is to be taken on all wildfires.

78. (AL) Has a road or transportation management plan been developed and does it meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (NFPC33) (RMP 14, 70)

Coos Bay participated in the development of a Transportation Management Plan for the Western Oregon Districts of BLM. This Plan is in conformance with the NFP and the ROD for each district. Coos Bay has completed the first phase of implementation of the Plan (road category designation) and is currently working on completing Timber Management Objectives (TMO) for each of its sub-watersheds as a part of Watershed Analysis.

79. (AL) What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk? (NFP C7) (RMP 69)

Through the TMO process IDTs have identified, and are continuing to do so as TMO's are reviewed, roads either to be decommissioned or upgraded to reduce risks to achieving ACS objectives. These roads will become part of restoration projects, receiving further site specific reviews, through the EA process as funding for restoration efforts become available.

80. (KW) What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within Key Watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 7, 70)

The Myrtlewood Area completed EA # OR128-97-25, which includes decommissioning of approximately 6.4 miles of existing roads in the Lower South Fork Coquille (Tier-1 Key Watershed). When fully implemented, the proposed actions will reduce the road density on BLM-managed lands within the Lower South Fork Coquille to approximately 2 mi/mi^2. Road closures occurred in the Paradise Key Watershed in 1994. As many of the roads that could be closed, based on resource area needs and reciprocal right-of-way agreements, were closed.

81. (KW) If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits, denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in Key Watersheds? (NFP C7) (RMP 62-63)

No discretionary construction activities in key watersheds were requested in FY 97. One application was received that requested construction of a temporary road in a non Key Watershed. The road was constructed and will be closed at termination of the permit.

82. (AL) What watershed-based Coordinated Resource Management Plans and other cooperative agreements have been developed with other agencies to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (RMP 17, 25)

During FY-97, district and resource area f ish biologists were actively involved with the Coos and Coquille Watershed Associations, the Lower Rogue Council, and South Coast Coordinating Watershed Councils. Fish biologists provided technical support in the form of project recommendations, design and evaluation, basin action planning, monitoring plan development and implementation, database management, and special resources (such as aerial photography). Memorandums Of Understanding (MOU) were developed between the district and each of the Associations/Councils

83. (AL) Are presence of at-risk fish species and stocks, habitat conditions, and restoration needs being identified during watershed analysis? (RMP 30)

During FY-97, the Myrtlewood Area completed two Watershed Analyses (Big Creek and North Fork Chetco), both of which identified at-risk fish stocks, described aquatic habitat conditions, and made specific restoration recommendations. The Umpqua Area also identified at-risk fish stocks in the three Watershed Analyses completed in FY 97(North Smith, Upper Middle Umpqua, and Middle Main Coquille/North Fork Mouth/Catching Creek).

84. (AL) Are high priority sites for category 3 S&M species being identified? (NFP C5) (RMP 34)

When pre-project surveys are being conducted for other species, the locations of identified S&M category 3 and 4 species are being documented. Management recommendations and survey

protocol for most category 3 and 4 species have not been completed.

85. (AL) Are general regional surveys being conducted for category 4 S&M species to acquire additional information and to determine necessary levels of protection for arthropods, fungi species that were not classed as rare and endemic, bryophytes, and lichens? (NFP C6) (RMP 34)

See answer above.

86. (AL) What are we doing to implement approved recovery plans on a timely basis? (RMP 32)

The Section 7 consultation streamlining process developed in FY 96 was used again this year. Approved protocol for marbled murrelets, disturbance buffers for bald eagles, and current guidelines for northern spotted owls were used in preparation of the biological assessment for the consultation process with the USFWS.

87. (AL) What land acquisitions occurred or are under way, to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species? (RMP 33)

The district is working on acquisition of two parcels of land at New River. Although acquisition is not specifically for the management of special status species, obtaining these parcels would be beneficial to the recovery efforts for the western snowy plover.

88. (AL) What site specific plans for the recovery of special status species were or are being developed?

There are no specific plans at this time.

89. (SA) What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the research natural areas and environmental education areas? (RMP 38)

Cherry Creek Research Natural Area is being considered for trail improvement for foot access only, along with an on-going effort to identify researchers and obtain appropriate reports.

90. (AL) What mechanisms have been developed to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes? (RMP 40)

Watershed analysis is the primary mechanism used to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes, utilizing old photos, maps, literature, verbal discussion with many people, county records, agency records and tribal input.

91. (AL) What efforts are being made to work with American Indian groups to accomplish cultural resource objectives and achieve goals outlined in existing

memoranda of understanding and develop additional memoranda as needs arise? (RMP 40)

The district archeologist position was expanded to include the role of Native American Coordinator for the district. We also have staff and management-level contacts with each of the three federally-recognized tribes whose interests extend to Coos Bay BLM lands. During FY 97 we signed a MOU with the Coquille Indian Tribe and have a MOU in place with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. The interests of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon extend well beyond our district, so any MOU with this Tribe would be negotiated by the OR/WA BLM office.

92. (AL) What public education and interpretive programs were developed to promote the appreciation of cultural resources? (RMP 40)

In FY 97 the district:

- **S** Participate in, and have distributed the middle school teacher's guide "Exploring Oregon's Past" to school systems and ESD's throughout the South Coast.
- **S** Public presentations describing archeological investigations are given seasonally at Loon Lake and elsewhere.
- **S** Supported the City of Reedsport's *Tsalila* and Winchester Bay festival activities with staff expertise, planning and teaching environmental education projects associated with the festival. Tsalila is the Indian word for salmon.
- **S** Continued to play a supportive role in the Bal'diyaka Project with the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Siuslaw, and Lower Umpqua.
- **S** Continued our leadership role in the Oregon Coastal Environments Awareness Network (OCEAN), creating a network of educational sites and activities for all visitors.
- **S** The Cape Blanco Lighthouse guided tours are operating under a BLM Special Use Permit, in cooperation with State Parks.
- **S** Blossom Gulch Elementary outdoor classroom, teacher training, and watershed health projects with older students continue.
- **S** New River project with Bandon School is on-going.
- **S** Career experience is provided by the Bureau through various school-to-work programs and the Volunteer Program.

93. (AL) What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities? (NFP App D) (RMP 45)

Enhancing local communities and supporting economic efforts with local and state agencies included:

- **S** Club Bump and the Chamber of Commerce is working with BLM to identify trails and users groups to build and maintain trails for hikers, bikers, and equestrians.
- **S** BLM remains an active participant with the Coos Head Working Group to identify potential uses for the federal property currently under military withdrawal near the entrance to Coos Bay.

- BLM employees are active participants on the Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee, School Board, Watershed Associations, Chamber of Commerce Forestry/Fisheries Committee, and offer technical assistance in the mountain bike feasibility study, and the Port Orford Way finding Station efforts. We also participated in the Chamber's efforts to nominate US Highway 101 as a National Scenic By-way.
- Under the authority of the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative, Jobs-in-the-Wood Program, the district has entered into an Assistance Agreement with the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District. This agreement funds and participates in the training and use of displaced timber workers in watershed restoration projects associated with the districts transportation network.

94. (AL) Are resource management plan implementation strategies being identified that support local economies? (NFP App D) (RMP 45)

See answer above.

95. (AL) What is the status of planning and developing amenities that enhance local communities, such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities? (NFP App D) (RMP 45)

Status of planning and developing amenities for recreation and wildlife viewing includes:

- North Spit Boat Ramp - Working with partners to find a long term solution to sand and debris deposition on the boat ramp; working to enhance wildlife viewing with help from The Nature Conservancy and US Army Corps of Engineers in improving Snowy Plover habitat. Increasing foot trail access and planning a sign strategy to inform the public of what's available.
- Dean Creek plan amendment is generating comments as to what to do with the buildings on the recently acquired property. The Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area - a Watchable Wildlife site entertained approximately 200,000 visitors the past several years.
- Major renovations to the 23-year old utility systems will improve recreation services at Loon Lake.
- Weekly Volunteer assistance at 10 of our outlying sites allows us to provide quality recreation sites to visitors.
- Priorities have been forwarded to our Washington Office for backlog maintenance needs in the recreation program.

96. (AL) By land-use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the SEIS record of decision Standards and Guidelines and resource management plan management objectives? (RMP 53, A-9)

This information has been displayed in Table 8 in this APS.

97. (MTX) Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically-selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the

calculation of the expected sale quantity, implemented? (RMP A-2)

This information has been displayed in Table 9 in this APS.

98. (AL) Have specific guidelines, consistent with the NFP and RMP, for the management of individual special forest products been developed and implemented? (RMP 55)

The district continues to use the guidelines contained in the *Oregon/Washington Special Forest Products Procedure Handbook*.

99. (AL) Are noxious weed control methods compatible with LSR and Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives? (RMP 72)

Noxious weed control methods have been discussed in both the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessments, as well as in Watershed Analyses.

100. (RR) What cooperative efforts have been made with other agencies to identify and eliminate impacts which threaten continued existence and distribution of native fish stocks on federal land? (RMP 30)

In FY 97, the BLM developed an MOU with ODFW, regarding cooperative and comprehensive aquatic habitat inventory, which will identify physical conditions threatening the continued existence and distribution of native fish stocks on federally-managed lands. Myrtlewood fisheries continues to prepare annual conferencing packages for OR Coast ESU Steelhead (Proposed) and prepare annual formal consultation packages for projects/actions in the Southern OR/Northern CA ESU (for Threatened coho salmon). Consultation workloads have increased this year due to ongoing litigation which requires additional documentation in the preparation of Biological Assessment determinations.

101. (SA) Have management plans been prepared, revised and implemented for areas of critical environmental concern? (RMP 38)

The New River ACEC management plan was completed in FY 96, with implementation of the plan beginning in FY 97. The Hunter Creek ACEC management plan was completed in FY 97, however implementation has not yet begun. The North Fork Chetco ACEC plan was not completed in FY 97 as had been anticipated.

102. (AL) What is the status of the development and implementation of recreation plans for proposed sites, trails, SRMAs, etc.? (RMP 49)

Proposed sites - Development of recreation plans for proposed sites have been put “on hold” until we improve existing sites, hopefully with pipeline funding, which prompted our prioritizing projects in FY 97. Myrtlewood RA hired a temporary from Environmental Careers Organization to pursue trail planning in conjunction with the Tourism Committee of the Chamber of

Commerce.

SRMAs - Loon lake operations plan was completed and signed in September, 1997; The Amendment to Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area is currently under public review; Coos Bay Shorelands and New River management action items are being implemented as funded; the first draft management plan for Edson and Sixes Special Recreation Management Areas has begun.

103. (LSR) Was additional analysis and planning included in the LSR Assessment "fire management plan" to allow some natural fires to burn under specified conditions? (RMP 75)

Both the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessments considered and rejected allowing some natural fires to burn under specified conditions, based primarily on the fact that the ecosystems are not fire-dependent, and that permitting natural fires to burn would not be consistent with neighboring landowners management objectives.

104. (LSR) Did the LSR Assessment "fire management plan" emphasize maintaining late-successional habitat? (RMP 74)

The fire management plan contained in both the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* and the *South Coast - Northern Klamath LSR* Assessments call for full and aggressive suppression of all wildfires as well the use of prescribed fire to reduce activity and natural fuels buildup and to achieve a desired species mix.

105. (AL) Are Escaped Fire Situation Analyses being prepared for fires that escape initial attack? (RMP 75)

No fires escaped initial attack and required the preparation of an Escaped Fire Situation Analyses occurred on the Coos Bay District in FY 97. Five wildfires covering 8.7 acres were reported. The identified causes and acres burned were: powerline clearing (3 acres); prescribed burning (5.5 acres); and lightning (0.2 acres).

106. (AL) What wildlife habitat restoration projects were designed and implemented during the past year? (RMP 27)

The district continued the maintenance/restoration of approximately 70 acres of Western Snowy Plover nesting habitat on the North Spit using tractor, disc and hand pulling of beachgrass by inmate work crew. Topped 375 trees in Reserve Areas. Installed 3 bat boxes under bridges as well as at Dean's Creek.

107. (AL) What wildlife interpretive facilities have been designed and implemented during the past year? (RMP 27, 45)

No new wildlife interpretive facilities have been designed and implemented during the past year.

The administrative building at the New River ACEC opened in FY-1997, with interior and exterior interpretive panels, and initiated eight Environmental Education Programs including day hikes attended by about 30 individuals. A kiosk was installed at Sixes, and interpretive panels are nearly completed.

108. (LSR) What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves? (NFP C18) (RMP 21)

A fire management plan for the *Oregon Coast Province - Southern Portion* LSR Assessment covering LSR 267 has been prepared and reviewed by the REO. A fire management plan for the *South Coast - Northern Klamath* LSR Assessment covering the remaining LSRs located on the Coos Bay district has been prepared and should be submitted to REO for review early in FY 98.